The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 5713 號三十百七千五第 日一念月二年子丙緒光 HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MARCH 16TH, 1876. 四年禮 號六十月三英 港香 [PRICE $2½ PER MONTH.

Arrivals.

March 15, DOUGLAS, British steamer, 864, E. Burnie, Foochow 12th March, Amoy 13th, and Swatow 14th, General.—D. LAPRAIK & Co.

March 15, NINGPO, British str., 761, Rayner, Canton 14th March, General.—SIEMSSEN & Co.

March 15, ASIA, French str., 883, A. Pateau, Kurrachee 11th February, Cotton.—SIEMSSEN & Co.

March 15, H.M.S. KESTREL, 461, Commander C. B. Theobald, Shanghai March 8th.

March 15, RAJAH, British steamer, 359, W. Hansen, Swatow 14th March, General.—HOP HING.

Clearances.

AT THE HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE, MARCH 15TH.

Hailoong, str., for Amoy, &c.
Thingvalla, str., for Saigon.
Crocus, str., for Saigon.
Great Republic, str., for Yokohama and San Francisco.

Departures.

March 15, KWANGTUNG, str., for East Coast.
March 15, GREAT REPUBLIC, str., for Yokohama and San Francisco.
March 15, CROCUS, str., for San Francisco.

Passengers.

ARRIVED.

Per *Douglas*, str., from East Coast:—
Messrs. Robilliard, Richardson, Scott, Woolatt, Dirckx, and Kleinwachter.

Per *Rajah*, str., from Swatow:—
120 Chinese.

Per H.M.S. *Kestrel*, from Shanghai:—
Lieut. F. F. Bedford, H.N.

DEPARTED.

Per *Great Republic*, str., for Yokohama and San Francisco:—
For Yokohama.—Messrs. F. V. Chapman, Kitchelds, J. W. Laimon, T. E. Sorevin, and 1 Chinese. For San Francisco.—Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Pye, Rev. and Mrs. S. R. House and 2 children, Mrs. Redwood, Mrs. W. Wendall, Messrs. J. A. Campion, W. Noyes, Morehouse, and C. A. Andrew, child, and maid, and 1,076 Chinese.

Per *Crocus*, str., for San Francisco:—
961 Chinese.

TO DEPART.

Per *Haloong*, str., for Amoy, &c.:—
50 Chinese.

Per *Thingvalla*, str., for Saigon:—
120 Chinese.

The following passengers proceed by the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s str. *Lombardy*, to-day, at noon:—

For Singapore.—Surgeon-Major Turton and servant. For Aden.—Mr. Sacconi. For Venice.—Mr. and Mrs. James Greig and Mr. J. de Cordova. For Southampton.—Deputy Surgeon-General J. Moorhead, Lieut. R. R. McCrea, Messrs. C. R. Bennett and Flowers and European servant.

Reports.

The French steamship *Asia* reports left Kurrachee on 11th February, and had moderate and variable winds with cloudy and thick weather throughout.

The British steamship *Rajah* reports left Swatow on 14th March, and had strong Easterly winds with thick and rainy weather throughout. In Swatow were steamships *Foochow* and *Adria*.

The P. & O. steamship *Lombardy* reports left Shanghai on 10th March, and had moderate and light variable winds all the passage with foggy weather; the latter part thick, foggy weather.

The British steamship *Flamingo* reports left Calcutta on 27th February and Singapore on 7th March. Anchored outside yesterday at 11 a.m. in dense fog, which only cleared off this morning.

H.M.S. *Kestrel* reports left Shanghai on 6th March, and had fine weather and light Easterly winds until the 10th, then fog. The fog lifted on the evening of the 11th, then rain commenced with strong N.E. winds.

The British steamship *Douglas* reports left Foochow on 12th March, Amoy on the 13th, and Swatow on the 14th. On the 12th at 8 p.m. passed a Russian frigate bound North. On the 15th at 7.30 a.m. passed the steamship *Kwangtung* off Nine Pins. Experienced S. Westerly winds and foggy weather until after leaving Amoy; thence to port fresh N.E. winds and cloudy weather, attended with rain to arrival. In Foochow, the steamship *Europe*. In Amoy, H.M.S. *Tapwing*, steamships *Esmeralda* and *Carisbrooke*. In Swatow, the steamships *Adria*, *Lord of the Isles*, *Foochow*, and *Rajah*.

Vessels that have arrived in Europe from Ports in China, Japan and Manila.

(Per last Mail's Advice.)

Vessels.	*From.*	*Date of Arrival.*
Ada	Hongkong	Jan. 7
Quang-Se (s.)	London	Jan. 22
Achilles (s.)	China Ports	Jan. 22
Assyrian	Iloilo	Jan. 22
Berwickshire	Manila	Jan. 23
Hazel Holme	Manila	Jan. 25
Selima	Iloilo	Jan. 25
Viking (s.)	Foochow	Jan. 27
Glaucus (s.)	China Ports	Jan. 28
Solent	Hongkong	Feb. 1

Vessels Expected at Hongkong.

(Corrected to Date.)

Vessel's Name.	*From.*	*Date.*
Iphigenia	Hamburg	Sept. 4
Portland	Portland, O.	Oct. 22
British Crown	Cardiff	Nov. 1
Canton	Cardiff	Nov. 16
Tasman	New York	Nov. 18
F. H. Drews	Cardiff	Nov. 20
N. d'Auxiliatrice	Cardiff	Nov. 21
Argo	Cardiff	Nov. 22
Assens	Antwerp	Nov. 23
Annie Fish	Cardiff	Nov. 26
Comet	Boston, U.S.	Nov. 26
Jylland	Hamburg	Nov. 27
Oceanus	Cardiff	Dec. 1
Hiernuymue	Cardiff	Dec. 12
Anna	Cardiff	Dec. 17
S. Amsterdam (s.)	Liverpool	Dec. 26
Rota	Cardiff	Dec. 29
Belted Will	London	Dec. 31
M. Brocklemann	Cardiff	Jan. 6
Ottercaps	Cardiff	Jan. 6
Lycka Till	Cardiff	Jan. 6
Pupa	Liverpool	Jan. 7
Echo	London	Jan. 10
Titian	Penarth	Jan. 11
Antipodes	Cardiff	Jan. 13
Alex. McNeil	Cardiff	Jan. 17
Onward	Liverpool	Jan. 17
Sophie	Cardiff	Jan. 19
Henry Bolckow (s.)	Cardiff	Jan. 19
Flintshire (s.)	London	Jan. 22
Nestor (s.)	Liverpool	Jan. 27
Lord Macaulay	Newport	Jan. 31
Nearchus	Cardiff	Feb. 1
Evelyn	London	Feb. 2

Auction Sales To-day.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
At 12 noon,
Sundry Articles.

Intimations.

ORIENTAL HOTEL,
WELLINGTON STREET, HONGKONG,
STOCKHAUSEN AND ROSE,
PROPRIETORS.
TIFFIN at ONE. DINNER at SEVEN.
Wines, Spirits, &c., of the Best Quality only.
English, French, and German Spoken.
BILLIARD ROOMS—BOWLING ALLEYS.

C. L. THEVENIN,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
AGENT for DE ST. MARCHAUX ET CIE'S CHAMPAGNES,
Dépôt for Vichy Waters,
ED. PINAUD ET CIE'S PERFUMERY,
N. ANTOINE ET FILS' INKS, &c., &c.,
11, STANLEY-ST., & 44, QUEEN'S-ROAD.

FOR SALE—A BARGAIN,
A FIRST CLASS PRINTING MACHINE, quite new, and capable of printing 1,000 copies per hour by hand power, size of Table 26 by 33 inches, manufactured by WILLIAM DAWSON and SONS. Has Pointing Apparatus, &c., &c., complete, and is in first rate working order.
For further Particulars, address "P. P. H.," care of the Office of this Paper.
212 Hongkong, 14th February, 1876.

NOTICE IN EXPLANATION OF A SLANDER.

THE principles of right or wrong will reveal themselves in course of time, and this saying is clearly set forth in the History of China. When undue reliance is placed on statement by word of mouth, a good argument is always wanting, and this is what the Book of Changes has always guarded people against. If a man is not guilty of anything seriously wrong, is it likely that he will submit himself to be killed?

With regard to LAI MING CHUN, he is indeed a bare-faced fellow, and one who has no regard for anything. On the 27th day of the 10th Moon last year (24th November, 1875), he slandered Messrs. TSANG CHUN YEE and WOO LIN TAK by falsely accusing them of being engaged in the nefarious trade of selling people for the purposes of emigration, and that in their transactions they were in fact kidnappers. And finally, he recorded the same in the *Tsun Wan Yat Po* (the *Universal Circulating Herald*), so that Messrs. TSANG and WOO had thought of suing him before the local authorities, so that he might be punished for libelling people's character. Fortunately for him, however, LAI MING CHUN learnt in time of his own wrong in slandering the character of good men, and now he has voluntarily consented to pay the penalty of bearing the legal expenses in the sum of $300, and to pay also (into the poor box) $25, for the relief of the Hongkong poor; also, from his funds, to pay costs of inserting in the Chinese and foreign newspapers, three of each, for the period of one month, an article, in order to redeem himself from what he has been guilty of. But this, nevertheless, would not actually be sufficient to cover the enormity of his sin. The reason why Messrs. TSANG and WOO condescend to these terms was because they had been advised by intimate friends, who urged that, inasmuch as both parties were Chinamen, how could they, Messrs. TSANG and WOO, have the heart to see him (LAI MING CHUN) put in a gaol of the foreigner? So that it would be far better that they should forgive him, but inflict a small penalty by way of a small warning.

It is happened, luckily, that Messrs. TSANG and WOO's magnanimity proved to be as expansive as the sea and as capacious as the ocean, and it was thus that the matter was put an end to. This is sufficient to show that Messrs. TSANG and WOO are peaceful and quiet men, and that they have done a very good act. But LAI MING CHUN is a man who is very much conceited (*lit.* the night pedestrian who thinks a great deal of himself), and one who falsely dilates in satire and raillery. He began life in a very mean position, and is not of a respectable family (*lit.* the descendant of the pure and white). While in a menial position, he, moreover, offends his superiors. Therefore it would not be arbitrary were he to be banished beyond the frontiers, nor would it be too much were he to be put to the sword (*lit.* under the axe). Now that he is only fined in so small a sum, it is indeed his good fortune that he has escaped greater consequences.

ONE WHO UPHOLDS JUSTICE.

* This has reference to a Chinese story, which, in its moral, is very similar to the Frog and Bull story in Æsop's Fables.—*Translator.*
1m 243 Hongkong, 19th February, 1876.

NOTICE.

A MAN'S character should be judged from what it has been before, and by that means elegance or worthlessness can be discerned. A story should be judged by its tenor or false bearings, so that right and wrong may be distinguished. These remarks apply to the case in which Messrs. TSANG SHUN YEE and WOO LIN TAK were, on the 27th day of the 10th moon last year (24th November, 1875), slandered by LAI MING CHUN.

Messrs. TSANG SUN YEE and WOO LIN TAK have been residing for more than ten years in Hongkong, and have always been employed in representing Nam Pak Hongs in their transactions with foreigners. While their character stands high, their conduct is excellent, and they have for a long time back been respected by both Chinese and foreigners. They have not only not borne a name that is approaching to anything improper, but they have not in the course of all their actions done anything objectionable. Unexpectedly, however, slander came upon them unawares, but *of course*, when virtue stands high, reproach will come. They were therefore falsely charged by LAI MING CHUN'S letter, which was void of all truth, with selling people for emigration abroad. They are indeed labouring under a false imputation from which it is now difficult for them to clear themselves. Our Office, therefore, in punishing LAI MING CHUN for having done what he ought not to have done, orders him—and he consents—to pay the sum of $600, the amount of legal expenses; he has also by way of punishment to pay $25 into the poor box for the benefit of the Hongkong poor. He is further punished by having to pay the expenses of advertising in the Chinese and foreign newspapers in the Colony, three of each, for the period of one month, a notice which will bring before the public his sin in this defamation. Reparations like these will, perhaps, allay in a measure the indignation which Messrs. TSANG and WOO feel.

When a man finds fault with others he ought in the first instance to acquire whether he himself is unblemished. Now LAI MING CHUN, as a man, is not one who is numbered among the gentry, nor is his name pronounced by the lips of the illustrious. Yet he falsely dilates in slanderous language and spreads diffusedly by word of mouth stories to the defilement and pollution of (the good name of) Messrs. TSANG and WOO. It was right therefore that Messrs. TSANG and WOO sought to sue him in the Courts of Justice, and he was on the eve of being punished by the utmost penalty of the law. Fortunately, however, Messrs. TSANG and WOO'S magnanimity is expansive as the sea and as capacious as the ocean, and they deal with people liberally, with that end in view, they therefore prefer, instead of punishing him, as he rightly deserves, to forgive him of the enormous crime of which he has been guilty. Having ceased litigation now, they have no resentment against any one, and by so doing, they cherish the friendly tie that exists amongst the Chinese clans. They have also shown that in doing this they are inflicting a lenient punishment for the sake of a great warning. They are indeed fully sustaining the benevolent principles of the great men, and for this act of theirs, may the happiness (or good fortune) of Messrs. TSANG and WOO never grow less.

THE UNIVERSAL CIRCULATING HERALD
(TSUN WAN YAT PO).
1m 244 Hongkong, February 19th, 1876.

To be Let.

TO LET.
THE PREMISES lately occupied by THE CHINA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, Queen's Road.
Apply to
G. FALCONER & Co.
tf 1070 Hongkong, 7th July, 1875.

TO LET.
With Immediate Possession.
THE Semi-detached RESIDENCES Nos. 1 and 2, WESTBOURNE VILLAS, Bonham Road.
The HOUSE at the west end of "The Albany," recently in the occupation of the Hon. C. C. SMITH.
HOUSES on Upper Mosque Terrace.
All with Gas and Water laid on.
Also,
A First-class GODOWN at Wanchai about 5,000 tons capacity.
Apply to T. G. LINSTEAD.
1454 Hongkong, 12th January, 1876.

TO LET.
NO. 5, ZETLAND STREET.
No. 2, SEYMOUR TERRACE.
No. 3, PEDDAR'S HILL.
Apply to
DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.
tf 512 Hongkong, 8th March, 1876.

TO BE LET,
With Immediate Possession,
THE HOUSE No. 7, Gough Street. Apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.
1473 Hongkong, 29th September, 1875.

TO LET,
With Possession on the 1st April,
THE PREMISES in QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, known as the "London Inn."
Apply to
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co.
329 Hongkong, 10th March, 1876.

TO LET.
A FIRST-CLASS GRANITE GODOWN on the Praya, Wanchai.
Apply to
S. E. BURROWS & SONS.
tf 453 Hongkong, 20th March, 1875.

TO LET,
With Immediate Possession,
TWO DWELLING HOUSES and OFFICES, Nos. 14 and 16, Stanley Street, lately in the occupation of Messrs. RAYNAL & Co.
The HOUSE, No. 35, Wellington Street, lately in the occupation of Messrs. REIS & Co.
The DWELLING HOUSE, No. 4, Alexandra Terrace.
The STORE and DWELLING HOUSE, No. 31, Queen's Road, lately in the occupation of Miss GARRETT.
The HOUSE and OFFICES, No. 3 D'Aguilar Street, lately in the occupation of Mr. F. DEGENAER.
The STORE and PREMISES, Nos. 42 and 44, Queen's Road, lately in the occupation of Messrs. DUBOST & Co.
The Ground and First-floors of the HOUSE No. 1, Wyndham Street, with Stable attached.
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
tf 1864 Hongkong, 5th January, 1876.

TO BE LET,
THE HOUSE No. 11, STAUNTON STREET, at the Corner of Graham Street, containing 7 Rooms, with Coach House and Stabling. Possession can be had on the 17th March inst.
Apply to
TURNER & Co.,
41, Queen's Road.
tf 283 Hongkong, 1st March, 1876.

NOTICE.
WE have established BRANCHES of our FIRM at HAIPHONG and HANOI. Mr. E. CONSTANTIN is authorised to SIGN by procuration in Tonquin.
LANDSTEIN & Co.
3 Hongkong, 1st January, 1876.

NOTICE.
I HAVE This Day authorized Mr. J. Y. V. SHAW to SIGN my NAME per procuration.
A. MACG. HEATON.
8 Hongkong, 1st January, 1876.

BOCHUMER VEREIN FÜR BERGBAU UND GUSS-STAHL FABRICATION, IN BOCHUM (GERMANY).
CAST STEEL WORKS.
THE Undersigned have been appointed SOLE AGENTS in CHINA for the above Establishment.
J. W. MÜLLER & Co.
3m 59 Shanghai, 1st January, 1876.

MR. M. TENHAEFF is AUTHORISED to SIGN my FIRM per procuration from this date.
EDWARD HEATON.
1m 306 Swatow, 1st March, 1876.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
PAID-UP CAPITAL.....5,000,000 of Dollars.
RESERVE FUND.....100,000 of Dollars.
Court of Directors:—
Chairman—E. R. BELLIOS, Esq.
Deputy Chairman—AD. ANDRE, Esq.
J. F. Cordes, Esq. | A. McIver, Esq.
H. Hoppius, Esq. | S. W. Pomeroy, Esq.
F. D. Sassoon, Esq.
Chief Manager.
Hongkong—James Greig, Esq.
Manager.
Shanghai—Ewen Cameron, Esq.
London Bankers—London and County Bank.
HONGKONG.
INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.
On Fixed Deposits:—
For 3 months 2 per cent. per annum.
6 " 4 " "
12 " 5 " "
LOCAL BILLS DISCOUNTED.
Credits—granted on approved Securities, and every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.
Drafts—granted on London, and the chief commercial places in Europe, India, Australia, America, China and Japan.
JAMES GREIG, *Chief Manager.*
Offices of the Corporation,
No. 1, Queen's Road East,
Hongkong, 17th February, 1876.

YANGTSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF SHANGHAI.
NOTICE.
ON and after this date the above Association will allow a Brokerage of THIRTY-THREE and ONE-THIRD PER CENT. (33⅓ %) on Local Risks only.
RUSSELL & Co.
Agents.
of 1800 Hongkong, 4th June, 1874.

QUEEN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.
THE Undersigned are prepared to GRANT POLICIES AGAINST FIRE to the extent of 45,000 Dollars on Buildings or on Goods stored therein, at Current Local Rates, subject to a Discount of 20 %, on the premia.
NORTON & Co.,
Agents.
tf 8 Hongkong, January, 1876.

TRANSATLANTIC FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.
THE undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to accept *risks against Fire at current rates*, subject to a bonus of 20 per cent.
SIEMSSEN & Co.,
Agents.
tf 39 Hongkong, 16th November, 1872.

Auctions.

PUBLIC AUCTION.
THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction,
THIS DAY,
the 16th March, 1876, at Noon, at his Sale Rooms, Queen's Road,—
IRON WASHERS for Bolts, ¾, 1 and 4.
4 RIVET FORGES.
1 SCREW JACK, capable of lifting 4 Tons.
2 Boilermaker's PATENT BRACES.
2 18in. RATCHET BRACES.
3 FORCE BRACES.
42 STEEL DRILLS, assorted.
18 Doz. 4 POLISHED NUTS.
1 Dudgeon's TUBE EXPANDER, 3½ in.
4 Thomson's TUBE EXPANDERS, from 2 to 3½ in.
1 15in. SHIFTING SPANNER.
3 PATENT TUBE SCRAPERS.
1 No. 4 Gifford's BRASS INJECTOR, suitable for Steam Launch.
10½ lbs. INDIA-RUBBER WASHERS.
12 BELT PUNCHES.
5 Pairs of PLIERS.
1 SNIDER RIFLE and BAYONET.
1 REVOLVER.
12 ARMY BLANKETS.
A few Bottles of ESSENCE of LEMON, CINNAMON, and GINGER, Compound Extract of SARSAPARILLA and SELTZER POWDER, &c., &c., &c.
TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.1.7. All Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at purchasers' risk on the fall of the hammer.
J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Auctioneer.
346 Hongkong, 14th March, 1876.

GENERAL WEEKLY SALE.
LANE, CRAWFORD & Co. will Sell by Public Auction, in their Sale Rooms, Praya,
TO-MORROW,
the 17th March, 1876, at Noon,—
Electro-Plated Table, Dessert, and Tea SPOONS, Table and Dessert FORKS, Marmalade POTS, SARDINE BOXES, BUTTER DISHES, TRAYS, CASH BOXES, WATCH CHAINS, SPECTACLES, Brass CANDLESTICKS, Framed ENGRAVINGS, &c., &c.
Also,
100 lbs. Turkey SPONGE.
5 Cases CLARET.
50 Cases PORTLAND CEMENT.
IRON CHESTS.
2 Marble MANTELPIECES.
OLD TOM.
1 6-Oar GIG, complete.
&c., &c., &c.
TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.1.7. All Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at purchasers' risk on the fall of the hammer.
351 Hongkong, 15th March, 1876.

PUBLIC AUCTION.
THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, on
MONDAY,
the 20th day of March, 1876, at Noon, at the Cosmopolitan Docks, Kowloon,—
Four Worthington PUMPS.
BOILER.
DONKEY PUMP.
EXHAUST PIPES.
SUCTION PIPES.
TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.1.7. All Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer.
A Steam Launch will leave Pedder's Wharf for the Docks at HALF-PAST ELEVEN o'clock.
J. M. ARMSTRONG,
Auctioneer.
335 Hongkong, 11th March, 1876.

EDICTALLADUNG.
DAS Obergericht der freien Hansestadt Bremen macht hiedurch bekannt, dass auf den Bericht der Pupillen-Commission der Antrag von HINRICH HAESLOOP Ehefrau, Johanne Cesine, geb. Goosmann, "ihren Ehemann HINRICH HAESLOOP, geboren am 10ten Februar, 1836, zu Ronnebeck, Sohn des Kahnschiffers Ficko Haesloop und dessen Ehefrau, Christine, geb. Schullen, zu Rönnebeck, welcher am 1 September, 1871, als Capitain des der hiesigen Handelsgesellschaft Bagelmann & Victor gehörigen Schiffes "META" mit demselben von Hongkong nach Chefoo abgesegelt, an letzterem Platze jedoch nicht angekommen, und von welchem keine Kunde wieder hierher gelangt sei, so dass angenommen werden müsse, er sei mit dem Schiffe verunglückt, fuer todt zu erklaeren," fuer zulässig und demgemaess eine Edictalladung des Verschollenen erkannt worden ist.
Es wird daher der vorerwähnte HINRICH HAESLOOP hiedurch geladen, spätestens am MONTAG, den 26 March, 1877, Vormittags 10 Uhr, vor dem Obergerichte in diesem Audienzzimmer auf hiesigem Rathhause persoenlich oder durch einen Bevollmächtigten zu erscheinen, oder bis dahin Kunde von seinem Leben und Aufenthalt zu geben, widrigenfalls er fuer todt erklaert und sein Vermoegen den in Folge eines Todes dazu Berechtigten verabfolgt werden wird. Sodann werden Alle, welche von seinem Leben oder Tode Nachrichten besitzen, aufgefordert, solche dem Obergerichte mitzutheilen.
Zugleich werden die unbekannten Erben und Glaubiger des obgenannten HINRICH HAESLOOP hiemit geladen, ihre etwaigen ANSPRUECHE und FORDERUNGEN, bei Strafe des Verlustes derselben, in dem obgedachten Termine anzugeben und geltend zu machen.
"Bremen aus der Canzlei des Obergerichts, den 17ten December, 1875.
209] H. LAMPE, Dr.

F. KRUPP'S CAST STEEL WORKS, ESSEN (GERMANY).
SOLE AGENT FOR CHINA,
F. PEEL,
Hongkong, Shanghai, Cologne (Germany.)

NOW ON SALE.
THE HOUSEHOLD COMPANION AND STUDENT'S FIRST ASSISTANT,
By Dr. DEVAN, with many Additions, Corrections, and Dr. WILLIAMS' Orthography.
PRICE: In Paper Wrapper.....$1.50
Neatly Bound.....$2.00
Apply at the *Daily Press* Office.

PHŒNIX FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.
FROM this date, until further notice, a discount of Twenty per cent. (20 %) upon the current local rates of premia will be allowed upon insurances effected with this Company.
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
Agents.
tf 1192 Hongkong, 27th June, 1872.

SUN FIRE OFFICE.
THE Undersigned is prepared to Grant Policies against Fire to the extent of $45,000 on First-class Risks.
A Discount of Twenty per cent. (20 %) upon the Current Local Rates of Premia will be allowed upon Insurances effected with this Office.
T. G. LINSTEAD,
Agent, Sun Fire Office.
1335 Hongkong, 26th August, 1874.

THE SCOTTISH IMPERIAL INSURANCE COMPANY.
THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agent in Hongkong for the above-named Company, is prepared to GRANT POLICIES against FIRE on Buildings and on Goods to the extent of £10,000 at the usual rates subject to an immediate discount of 20 %.
Attention is invited to a considerable reduction in premia for Life Insurance in China.
Life Policies effected during the year 1875 Share in the Bonus to be declared on 31st December for the quinquennial period then ending.
A. MACG. HEATON,
1465 Hongkong, 27th September, 1875.

Intimations.

FOR SALE.
THE UNDERMENTIONED LAND and BUILDINGS.
AT HONGKONG:—
INLAND LOT 82.—The well-known House and Offices lately occupied by Messrs. A. HEARD & Co., adjoining the Cathedral Compound.
The Ground below the masonry retaining wall of the above abutting on the Queen's Road.
Annual Crown Rent, $390.48.
MARINE LOT 111, WANCHAI.—First-class and extensive Godowns.
Annual Crown Rent, $324.
INLAND LOT 591.—Situated on the Bonham Road, and one of the finest sites for Villa Residences in the Colony.
Annual Crown Rent, $79.72.
FARM LOT 17, BOWOLUM, adjoining Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE'S Premises.
Annual Crown Rent, $25.
AT KOWLOON:—
MARINE LOT 4.—With a frontage of 100 feet on the Praya, and with an area of 10,000 feet.
Reduced Annual Crown Rent, $10.
AT YOKOHAMA:—
Lots No. 6 and No. 27 in the Foreign Settlement.
No. 6 is situated on the Bund, and comprises an Eight-roomed Dwelling House, detached, with Garden all round, Offices, Godowns Servants' Quarters, and Outhouses. Area 1,064 Tsubos of 36 square feet.
Annual Ground Rent, $263.79.
No. 27 is separated from No. 6 by Water Street, and comprises large Tea Firing and other Godowns, Floss Silk Press, Compradore's Quarters, Stabling, and Fire Engine House. Area, 554 Tsubos.
Ground Rent, $154.97 per Annum.
Applications for Purchase, or further Information, to be made to
J. WHITTALL,
T. G. LINSTEAD,
Trustees A. Heard & Co.'s Estate,
23, Queen's Road, Hongkong.
142 Hongkong, 1st February, 1876.

MACEWEN, FRICKEL & Co.
have for Sale,
EX LATE ARRIVALS:—
FINE DOUBLE GLOSTER CHEESE.
DANISH BUTTER, in 1lb. and 2lb. Tins.
ENGLISH HAMS in Canvas.
ENGLISH BACON in Tins.
AMERICAN HAMS in Canvas.
AMERICAN BACON in Canvas.
AMERICAN SMOKED SALMON.
CODFISH, in 4lb., 7lb., and 14lb. Tins.
MUSCATEL RAISINS.
JORDAN ALMONDS.
TURKEY FIGS.
BARCELONA NUTS.
CANDIED PEELS, Assorted.
CRYSTALIZED FRUITS.
MACCARONI, VERMICELLI.
WASHING SODA.
GLENFIELD STARCH.
THUMB BLUE.
CAVITE and FOSTIN CIGARS.
WINE and BEER TAPS.
DOWNTON'S FIRE ENGINES.
CROCKERY WARE.
GLASSWARE.
MANILA ROPE, Assorted Sizes.
BASS' ALE, Bottled by CAMERON and SAUNDERS.
GUINNESS' STOUT, Bottled by E. and J. BURKE.
AITKEN'S ALE, Pints and Quarts.
JEFFREY'S SCOTCH ALE, Pints and Quarts.
ALLSOPP'S ALE, in Kilderkins.
HENNESSY'S BRANDY.
COURVOISIER'S BRANDY.
VICTOR BOULLAND'S BRANDY.
LA GRANDE MARQUE BRANDY.
AVH GIN.
OLD TOM.
SCOTCH WHISKY.
PALE DRY DINNER SHERRY.
GINGER WINE.
KRUG'S CHAMPAGNE.
BOURBON WHISKY.
MARASCHINO, CURACOA, and CHARTREUSE.
14 Hongkong, 1st March, 1876.

DUC DE MONTEBELLO CARTE BLANCHE CHAMPAGNE:—
Quarts.....$15 per case (1 dozen.)
Pints.....$16 " " (2 ")
5 % discount on 25 Cases.
BOURBON WHISKEY,
$12 per case (1 dozen.)
FOR SALE BY
HEARD & Co.
975 Hongkong, 23rd June, 1875.

J. AND R. TENNENT'S ALE and PORTER.
DAVID CORSAR & SONS'
Merchant Navy
Navy Boiled } CANVAS.
Long Flax
Crown
ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.
tf 1180 Hongkong, 11th May, 1867.

FOR SALE.
DWELLING HOUSES No. 1 and No. 2, St. John's Place.
Apply to
S. E. BURROWS & SONS.
653 Hongkong, 1st May, 1875.

THE TOURIST'S GUIDE.—REDUCED PRICE $1.
Containing the names of all the Articles of Trade, objects of Natural History, Furniture, &c., &c., with the Punti, and Mandarin Pronunciation.
Also a few copies of the GRAMMAR of the Chinese Language, in two Parts.
The Daily Press Office.

LUBECK FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF LUBECK.
THE Undersigned having been appointed GENERAL AGENTS for the above Company, are prepared to accept risks against Fire at current rates, subject to a discount of 20 %.
EDUARD SCHELLHASS & Co.,
3m 82] General Agents.

PHŒNIX FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.
THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents to the above Company at this Port, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of $40,000, on Buildings or on Goods stored therein.
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.
tf 717 Hongkong, 9th November, 1868.

IMPERIAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.
THE Undersigned, Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Policies against Fire to the extent of $60,000 on any one
FIRST-CLASS RISK,
at Current Rates.
A Return of Twenty per cent. (20 %) will be made on the premium charged on all Insurances, such Return being payable on the issue of the Policy.
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents,
Imperial Fire Insurance Company.
333 Hongkong, 1st March, 1874.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY OF MANCHESTER AND LONDON.
THE Undersigned have been appointed Agents for the above Company at Hongkong, Canton, Foochow, Shanghai, and Hankow and are prepared to grant Insurances at Current Rates.
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.
tf 1918 Hongkong, 15th October, 1868.

Intimations.

THE CHINESE INSURANCE COMPANY (LIMITED).
NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.
NOTICE is hereby given, that the Fifth Ordinary MEETING of the Shareholders of the above Company will be held at the Head Office, Victoria, Hongkong, on FRIDAY, the 24th March, 1876, at 3 o'clock P.M., for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts to 31st December, 1875.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 11th to the 24th March, both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board,
GLYPHANT & Co.,
General Agents.
18d 312 Hongkong, 6th March, 1876.

A. MILLAR AND CO.,
HOUSE, SHIP, AND STEAMBOAT PLUMBERS,
COPPERSMITHS, and BRASSFOUNDERS,
1, QUEEN'S ROAD EAST AND NULLAH LANE.
tf 152] [Feb. 3

ED. CHASTEL,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
17, WYNDHAM STREET,
Next to the "Daily Press" Office.
N.B.—Price Lists and Samples on application.
935 Hongkong, 16th June, 1875.

STORAGE.
COALS received on Storage in First-class Godowns of about 1,000 tons Capacity, situated on the Praya West, Wanchai.
T. G. LINSTEAD.
1909 Hongkong, 18th November, 1874.

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK COMPANY, LIMITED.
NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.
DIVIDEND WARRANTS for the DIVIDEND to 31st Dec. 1875, at the rate of $10 per Share can be obtained at the Office on and after 28th February.
By Order,
D. GILLIES,
Secretary.
No. 2, Club Chambers, Hongkong,
23th February, 1876. [33d 278

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.
THE DIVIDEND declared for the half-year ending on 31st December last, at the rate of Six per cent. per annum, say $3.75 per paid-up Share of $125, is payable on and after FRIDAY, the 18th instant, at the Offices of the Corporation, where Shareholders are requested to apply for Warrants.
By order of the Board of Directors,
JAMES GREIG,
Chief Manager.
tf 237 Hongkong, 17th February, 1876.

CHINA AND JAPAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY, IN LIQUIDATION.
NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.
ON and after the 24th January, a FIRST DIVIDEND of Fifty Taels (Tls. 50) per Share will be PAYABLE at the Offices of the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, Shanghai.
Warrants will be delivered upon presentation of the Scrip for endorsement at the Head Office, on and after the 19th inst.
By Order of the Liquidators,
JOHN DUNN,
Acting Secretary.
63 Shanghai, 4th January, 1876.

VICTORIA FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HONGKONG, LIMITED, IN LIQUIDATION.
NOTICE.
ALL Persons holding Warrants against unclaimed Dividends, Interest, or Bonus, are requested to present same for payment at the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK before the 1st APRIL, 1876, otherwise their Claims will not be recognised.
ADOLF ANDRE,
E. D. SASSOON,
Liquidators.
1861 Hongkong, 20th December, 1875.

LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE INSURANCE COMPANY.
FROM this date, until further notice, a discount of Twenty per cent. (20 %) upon the current local rate of premia will be allowed upon insurances effected with this Company.
DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.,
Agents.
tf 1193 Hongkong, 27th June, 1872.

POSITIVE GOVERNMENT SECURITY LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.
CHAS. H. MORGAN,
Agent.
1y 944 Hongkong, 18th June, 1875.

BATAVIA SEA AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.
THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to grant Insurances as follows:—
MARINE RISKS.
Policies at current rates, payable either here, in London, or at the principal ports of India, Australia, and the East.
A BROKERAGE of THIRTY-THREE and ONE-THIRD PER CENT. will be allowed on all LOCAL RISKS.
FIRE RISKS.
Policies granted on first-class Buildings to an extent of $20,000.
A DISCOUNT of TWENTY PER CENT. (20 %) upon the current local rates will be allowed on all premium charged for insurance; such discount being deducted at the time of the issue of policy.
RUSSELL & Co.,
Agents.
1 Hongkong, 1st January, 1874.

LONDON AND ORIENTAL STEAM TRANSIT INSURANCE OFFICE,
137, LEADENHALL STREET, LONDON
ESTABLISHED 1843.
THE Undersigned is authorised to accept risks on behalf of this Office, by First Class Steamers and Sailing Ships.
A. McIVER, *Agent.*
of Hongkong, 1st July, 1867.

MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY.
THE Undersigned Agents are in receipt of instructions from the Board of Directors, authorizing them to issue Policies to the extent of £10,000 on any one First-class Risk, or to the extent of £15,000 on Adjoining Risks at Current Rates.
A Discount of 20 % allowed.
HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.,
Agents.
48 Hongkong, 8th January, 1875.

YANG-TSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF SHANGHAI.
CAPITAL AND SURPLUS 800,000 TAELS.
POLICIES granted on *Marine Risks* to all parts

NOW READY.

THE CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY FOR 1876,

With which is incorporated "THE CHINA DIRECTORY."

THIS Work, in the FOURTEENTH year of its existence, is NOW READY FOR SALE.

It has be compiled and printed at the *Daily Press* Office, as usual, from the best and most authentic sources, and no pains have been spared to make the work complete in all respects.

In addition to the usual varied and voluminous information, the "CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY FOR 1876" contains a

CHROMO-LITHOGRAPH

OF A

PLAN OF VICTORIA, HONGKONG;

THE

FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS OF SHANGHAI.

A Chromo-Lithograph Plate of the NEW CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE A THE PEAK;

also of

THE VARIOUS HOUSE FLAGS

(Designed expressly for the Work,)

MAPS OF HONGKONG, JAPAN,

THE

P. & O. COMPANY'S ROUTES,

AND

THE COAST OF CHINA;

ALSO, THE

NEW CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE—HONGKONG;

besides other local information and statistics corrected to date of publication, tending to make this Work in every way suitable for Public, Mercantile, and General Offices.

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The CHRONICLE and DIRECTORY is now the only publication of its kind for China and Japan.

The Directory is published in two Forms—Complete at $5; or, with the Lists of Residents, Port Directories, Maps, &c., at $3.

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YOKOHAMA	Mr. C. D. Moss, *Japan Gazette* Office.
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SAIGON	Mr. J. H. Bloom, *Independant* Office.
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BANGKOK	Messrs. Malherbe, Jullien & Co.
LONDON	Mr. F. Algar, Clement's Lane.
LONDON	Mr. Geo. Street, 30, Cornhill.
LONDON	Messrs. Bates, Henry & Co.
SAN FRANCISCO	Mr. L. P. Fisher, 21, Merchants' Exchange.
NEW YORK	Messrs. S. M. Pettingill & Co., 37, Park Row.

Hongkong, January 3rd, 1876.

BIRTHS.

On the 10th inst., at No. 16, Gough Street, Hongkong, Mrs. J. H. dos REMEDIOS, of a son.

On the 12th instant, Mrs. F. GROBLEN, of a son.

DEATH.

On the 20th February, at London, MARGARETTA, wife of Captain Geo. D. Pitman, steamship *Kwangtung*, in her 44th year.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, MARCH 16TH, 1876.

THE progress across China of the Yunnan Commissioners has been watched with extraordinary interest not only here, but also in Great Britain. It was feared by many that Mr. GROSVENOR and his companions would not be allowed to accomplish this long and doubtfully-useful journey in safety. The sad fate of poor MARGARY was ever before the eyes of the public, and it was thought very probable that the same treachery to which he fell a victim might be employed towards those despatched to watch the investigations instituted into the circumstances of his barbarous murder. The utility of an English Commission was warmly disputed, and the apparent folly of sending three young men unprotected on such an expedition called forth general condemnation. Either because they were suddenly struck with a similar conviction or owing to the strictures passed upon the proposal, the British Government determined to send an armed escort *viâ* Bhamo to meet the Commissioners at Yunnan. A body of three hundred troops, consisting of two hundred men of H.M.'s 67th Regiment and one hundred of the 8th Madras Native Infantry, have accordingly been ordered to Bhamo. The Commissioners will, therefore, be fairly well protected when they arrive at the scene of the late outrage. Meantime it is satisfactory to hear, by the latest accounts, that they were all perfectly well on the 10th, and expected to arrive at Yunnan-fu on the 27th ultimo. It is to be hoped that they reached that town by the date mentioned and that their journey was brought to a safe termination. For our part, we have little doubt on this head. The Chinese Authorities have throughout shown the travellers the utmost courtesy and attention, and it is in the highest degree improbable that any one would, after the recent trouble, venture to molest them. Lawless some parts of the country through which they had to pass may be, but the officials would take particular care that no ill-intentioned natives should cross the path of the Commission.

What the Commissioners will be able to effect when arrived at Yunnan-fu, however, it is more difficult to say. It is possible that they may prove somewhat of a check upon the rather forward and fussy LI HAN-CHANG, and that their presence may dispose the Chinese officials to render it a more *bonâ fide* inquiry than it would otherwise have been. But it is questionable whether they will have much power to influence the proceedings. Of course they will be in a position to express their dissatisfaction, if they feel any, with the investigations, and demand a re-examination of a criminal, or make a suggestion. No doubt any suggestion or expression of opinion from Mr. GROSVENOR would be received by the Chinese Commissioners with the politeness for which the natives of the Middle Kingdom are famous, and some plausible reason given for its non-adoption, or a show made of conceding the point. But it is exceedingly doubtful whether there will be much to criticise or to take exception to in the proceedings of the inquiry. That very active individual, LI HAN-CHANG, has been pushing on matters with all the rapidity possible, and the whole plan of the trial would have been duly prepared by the time the British Commissioners arrived in Yunnan. The Chinese Government knew what they were at when they sent him on in advance. The British Minister did not display much policy when he suffered the departure of Mr. GROSVENOR and his colleagues to be delayed time after time. The Chinese clearly gained a move on the political chessboard by all the delay which intervened between the assassination of Mr. MARGARY and the late negotiations; they as certainly scored a point when they hurried off LI HAN-CHANG to Yunnan to make preparations for the promised inquiry. Given plenty of time, nothing is easier for a despotic, and more especially an Oriental, Government than to get out of a scrape caused by the blundering of its officials, or its own political mistakes. The former are peculiarly easy of arrangement. The degradation and prompt execution of the immediate agents in the outrage, in order that no tales may leak out, is the usual method adopted, while the instigators of the evil deed quietly retire behind the cloud of dust thus raised, and which generally answers the purpose intended—namely, filling the complainants' eyes.

It is, perhaps, yet somewhat early to express a confident opinion as to what will be the ultimate result of the Yunnan Inquiry. But judging from the memorials forwarded by LI HAN-CHANG there is reason to believe that the crime of instigation will not be traced home to any official of either rank or importance. From his latest report it would appear that the prisoners have confessed that they first robbed Mr. MARGARY, and then, on his firing a pistol and killing one of their number, they resolved to resist apprehension and murdered the young Englishman and his four attendants. They have firmly refused, however, to confess who had instigated them to commit the outrage, and the obvious inference which LI HAN-CHANG would have drawn from this is that they were not prompted to it at all, for he follows up the statement by saying that WU K'I-LIANG, the sub-prefect charged with being concerned in the affair, affirms that he "neither knew aught of it or had any share in planning what took place." From inquiries which have been set on foot, and the testimony of different officials, one distinct charge has certainly been made and fairly established. A Captain LI CHEN-KWOH is accused of inciting the people to resist the passage of Colonel BROWNE's Expedition, and although the Governor of the province wrote to him commanding him to quiet and appease the people, the communication did not reach him until the affair was over, and it was too late. "It appears from this," proceeds the memorial, "consequently, that although LI CHEN-KWOH had no intention to commit murder, he is liable to a charge of having laid plans to obstruct the expedition." It will be seen from this that there is little prospect of the crime being fastened upon its real authors. The reputed instruments of the outrage are in custody, and will doubtless suffer the extreme penalty of the law, and the two officials mentioned will be degraded and punished. Will the proceedings end there? That is a question which at present cannot be answered. LI SITAI has been placed in arrest, but it will probably be difficult to prove that he had any direct hand in the affair. Something may, of course, transpire during the investigations before the Commissioners, but we shall be surprised if evidence implicating any official of rank in the outrage crops up. We have strong faith in Chinese ingenuity, and feel a presentiment that they will manage to come out of the imbroglio without having to make any very serious or troublesome concession.

The *Japan Mail* says that excellent coal is now being obtained from the mines of Saghalien under Russian direction.

A Japanese native paper says that on the 23rd ult., two Chinese arrived in Japan, having been engaged by the Department of Public Industry to explain the mode of raising geese to farmers and others. They brought 100 breeding birds with them.

We understand that Dr. N. B. Dennys will, in a few days, go to Kiungchow, with the Customs' Officials, on behalf of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, to report on the resources of the port and the probabilities of trade. He will also, if opportunity permits, visit Haiphong, a port at present almost unknown. He intends likewise to collect such objects of natural history for the City Hall Museum, as are obtainable at the places mentioned.

A letter from Kumaon to the *Delhi Gazette* informs us that "the total out-turn of tea for Kumaon and Garhwal in 1875, was close on 600,000lbs., of which about 100,000lbs. was black tea, the remainder being green, which has all been sold to the Cabul and Bokhara merchants. A few contracts has been entered into for the crop of 1876, and I believe the dealers are prepared to purchase as much as the planters can grow this year."

A considerable extension of tea cultivation is probable in Chota Nagpore. European capitalists, attracted by the cheapness of local labour, are, we understand, negociating for grants of land in Lohardugga. Labour is, however, only one of the conditions precedent to the production of tea. The climate of the plateau differs radically from that of Assam and Cachar; and the Hazaribagh gardens have not, we think, been markedly remunerative. We welcome, however, anything that will tend to the absorption of (other people's) silver.—*Pioneer.*

A girl in Ypellanti, describes an ague chill as "cold streaks playing tag up and down my back."

The *Dublin Evening Mail* states that the total number of students on the books of Trinity College, Dublin, under the degree of M.A., is 1,153, of whom 70 are scholars of the house, three non-foundation scholars, 22 fellow commoners, 1,017 pensioners, and 46 sizars and ex-sizars. In 1857 the number was 1,039. It went on steadily increasing, and attained the the highest point in 1867, being 1,293.

POLICE INTELLIGENCE.

March 15th.

Before JAMES RUSSELL, Esq.

SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER.

Wong Akwai and another were charged with being suspicious characters. Inspector Cradock said they had been roving about Kowloon for some time without any visable signs of getting a living. The first prisoner he also charged with returning from deportation.

The first prisoner was sentenced six months' hard labour, and the second was discharged.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF TELEGRAPH WIRE.

A marine hawker residing at Kowloon, named Low Akwong, was charged by Inspector Cradock with the unlawful possession of a part of a coil of telegraph wire. The prisoner said he bought it from a boatman for 70 cents.

The case was remanded with a view of finding the boatman.

UNLICENSED MARINE STORE DEALERS.

Chun Achow, another marine hawker, was charged by Inspector Cradock with the unlawful possession of a very large piece of sandal-wood and a quantity of iron rigging at Kowloon.

Inspector Cradock said in the prisoner's shed there were about 13 tons of coals. He believed these were obtained from cargo boats which resort to Kowloon to moor at night and from fishing boats, which are always found dredging near coal ships. The prisoner had no license to keep a marine store.

The prisoner denied that he kept a marine store and said the goods in his place belonged to different friends, except the iron, which he bought for a friend. This friend brought the sandalwood for the Kowloon joss house.

The prisoner was fined $5 for keeping an unlicensed marine store.

THE STREET COOLIE NUISANCE.

Three other street coolies named Kwan Aon, Tsang Ayan, and Chan Alum were arrested by Chinese water police with three of those who jumped into Mr. J. Bousquet's boat and capsized it doing damage to his luggage.

They were remanded until the 16th to be tried with the other man now in custody, but were admitted to bail in $5 each.

CHARGE OF STEALING MEAT.

Low Asew, a cook to the police at No. 4 Police Station, and a Chinese cook to the soldiers at Victoria Barracks, were charged by Inspector McKenny, the second with stealing the soldiers' beef and the first with purchasing the beef knowing it to be stolen. The Inspector said his suspicion was raised by finding in first prisoner's possession three catties of beef. His boy could prove that the second prisoner brought large quantities of beef daily to the station to the first prisoner.

The boy called proved this, and said Inspector Cleaver's boy also knew it. Inspector Cleaver's boy called, denied all this.

Mr. Russell told this witness that he ought to be placed beside the prisoners. Addressing the prisoners he said he should convict them of unlawful possession, and send them each to three months' hard labour, in default of a fine each of $10. If he could he would have sent them to gaol without a fine.

ROBBING A FELLOW LODGER.

Leong Achan, a coolie, was charged by a rice pounder named Chü-Atai with the larceny of four pieces of clothing, a purse, and one tael one mace in silver.

It appears the two lived together in one house, and the prisoner took the opportunity of stealing the things when left alone in the house.

The offence was proved, and the prisoner sentenced to six month's hard labour.

CUTTING DOWN TREES.

Li-A-Ngan, calling himself a doctor, was charged by P.C. Wiltshire with cutting and destroying trees and shrubs.

The prisoner was fined $5; in default, one month's hard labour.

BEFORE THE HON. C. MAY.

A SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER.

Chan Amin, unemployed, was charged on remand by a Portuguese gentleman residing at Pechile Terrace, with being a suspicious character in that he was found in his verandah on the evening of the 12th instant, under suspicious circumstances.

The prisoner was sentenced to one month's hard labour.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY ON THE POKFULUM ROAD.

The remanded case, in which Li Ayan, Ching Asan, and Hung Asing, a chair coolie and two hawkers, were charged with highway robbery with violence on Chinese constable No. 204 at 6.30 p.m. on the 16th ultimo, came on again, but the constable being still in Hospital could not attend.

Chinese constable No. 126 said from instructions he received from Inspector Grey he had since the 16th been making enquiries. On the 10th instant he met a man named Atso, who told him he knew where the watch stolen from the constable was, that he had seen it with a man whom he believed had sold it. He reported the matter to Inspector Grey, after which he accompanied Atso to a house in Mercer Street, where he saw the second prisoner. He remained on the stairs whilst Atso said something to him about the watch. The second prisoner said he could not get it till 4 o'clock; it was then 2 o'clock. Atso came to him and said he saw a small boy with the whistle. He went upstairs and saw a boy 15 years of age with the chain, and on dragging it out the whistle appeared. He arrested the boy and the second prisoner, and took them to the station. From what the boy said about the chain and whistle, he went out with him and the boy pointed out the first prisoner. The boy, who was handcuffed, ran away whilst he was securing the first prisoner, and he had not seen him since.

Another constable gave evidence of taking the second prisoner to a congee stall in Tung Man Lau, where he pointed out the third prisoner as the man to whom he sold the watch. He arrested him, and the third prisoner said he had sold it again to a junk man for $5. He had paid the second prisoner $3 for it. The junk man had gone away. The second and third prisoners said something together, when the third prisoner produced the watch from under his jacket (the same produced).

Inspector Grey deposed to having given instructions, and to certain facts which had come under his notice.

The case was then further remanded until the 20th.

FOOCHOW.

The Taotai of Formosa, after having received fresh instructions from his immediate superior—the new Futai—left on the 8th inst. for Tai Wan-fu, in one of the provincial gunboats.

The disorderly Honan troops—who for months past have been a source of trouble to the authorities and of annoyance to the peaceful inhabitants of the City—are about to be disbanded and conveyed to their native province.

A battery of six muzzle loading cannon, recently purchased by the Provincial Government, arrived per S.S. *Europa* on the 8th ultimo. They were landed at the Mamoi Arsenal and are, it is believed, intended for the defence of the newly erected forts at the Min-gan pass.

H.B.M.'s S. *Midge* arrived from Tamsui on the 7th instant, came up to the Settlement the next day, and is now anchored off the Custom House. We understand that the crew will, in all probability, give another of their popular entertainments some evening next week.

It is stated that M. Giquel has been authorised to engage a number of dockyard and shipbuilding artisans in France, for employment at the Mamoi Arsenal. Also, that M. Giquel has himself entered into a new contract with the Provincial Government to serve, we presume, in his former capacity of Director.

Our correspondent at Pagoda Anchorage informs us that the foot-and-mouth disease has appeared amongst the cattle in that vicinity. An English heifer, belonging to one of the foreign residents, died of the distemper only three or four days ago, and many of the native cattle are reported to be either dead or dying from the same complaint.

The Viceroy is said to have applied to the throne for an audience, a preliminary step it is generally believed to his retirement from office. As mentioned in a recent issue, it is by no means improbable that the rumoured withdrawal of His Excellency from the high position he now occupies is the result of strong representations at Peking in regard to the maladministration of provincial affairs, more especially in connection with the "Telegraph" and *Asiaticus* questions.

The new Futai—Ting-jih-chang—entered the City between 3 and 4 a.m. on the 3rd instant—a strange hour, certainly, to select for a State entry, although strictly in accordance with the native custom in such matters. Enlightened though he be, the new Governor could not assume the seals of office without first consulting the sorcerers. These cunning men fixed upon the time named as the auspicious moment at which His Excellency might safely enter upon his important public duties.

We hear that the post of Director of the Foochow Arsenal, lately vacated by H.E. Ting-jih-chang, now Futai of Fokkien, will be filled shortly. Two officials have been recommended to the throne as fit candidates for the position, namely, *Woo*, the late Superintendent of the Tientsin Arsenal and now territorial Taotai at that place; and *Li*, at present Customs Taotai at Tientsin. The most likely to get the appointment is said to be *Woo*, who is spoken of as an efficient mandarin and one who has had intercourse with foreigners for some years—not only at the Tientsin Arsenal, but also as Taotai at Swatow some years ago. He is a native of Ngan-whuy, and a protegé of H.E. Li-Hung-chang, the great Viceroy of Chili.

While the officials at the Mamoi Arsenal are rejoicing over the departure of H.E. Ting Jih-chang—the Imperial Commissioner—whose navy-captain-flogging propensities did not quite suit them, the mandarins in the city are said to be in a state of great perturbation, in consequence of some unpleasant interviews that they have already had with the same personage. We learn from a very reliable source that certain sweeping reforms are impending. Amongst other changes, we understand that the new Futai is determined to root out a number of opium smoking officials, so that we shall shortly, no doubt, hear of many of our old friends being deprived both of buttons and office. Ting is worthy of all praise for the energy which he has already displayed, we are afraid that he is scarcely prudent enough to succeed. His honest efforts to cleanse the Augean stable will most assuredly cause a host of unscrupulous enemies to conspire against him. To make nearly all his immediate colleagues more or less antagonistic is hardly a wise policy for a Chinese official to pursue, although it may be the course dictated by conscience and public duty. Although H.E. Li Hung-chang is Ting's powerful patron, the latter is not popular, we believe, at Peking, where the conservative and obstructive party have unbounded influence. A reformer like H.E. Ting—clumsy though he may be—is rarely met with in the ranks of mandarindom, and we therefore trust that he may continue to display the courage of his opinions.

That splendid building known as the Canton "Joss" House, was on the 5th inst. the scene of a very pleasant gathering of foreigners and natives. A few well known tea brokers and compradores were the hosts, and a numerous and highly fashionable assembly of foreigners, including several ladies, responded to the general invitation so kindly issued. We also noticed a very considerable sprinkling of Chinese guests amongs whom were several native officials. The programme consisted of a dramatic performance (in Chinese, of course) interspersed with vocal and acrobatic feats altogether beyond our poor powers of description but certainly remarkable for its noisy character. The gongs, drums, sackbuts, and dulcimers gave forth music (?) of a sufficiently discordant nature to gladden even the ears of a late eccentric resident—had he been present; but the acting, so far as we could be judged, gave much satisfaction to the audience, and the gorgeous dresses evoked loud expressions of admiration. The Tartar conjuror, so well known to many of our readers, was also present, and performed some new feats of an exceedingly clever character. Nor were creature comforts forgotten by the attentive hosts—a *buffet* well supplied with foreign wines, cigars, and light refreshments having been thoughtfully provided. The evening's entertainment closed with a sumptuous dinner in the Chinese style, to which about 20 foreign ladies and gentlemen sat down. The dishes as regards both number and variety would baffle description, and therefore we shall not attempt the task. Sufficient to say that ample justice was done to the repast—notwithstanding the difficult experienced by many of the visitors in manipulating the ivory chop sticks. In conclusion, we may say that the foreign guests expressed very high approval of the efforts made by their friendly hosts to promote their comfort and amusement. Such gatherings as the one under notice are eminently calculated to bring about a better social feeling between Foreigners and their Chinese acquaintances.—*Foochow Herald.*

YEDO.

The mine of Mandokoro in the Province of Gmi produces 15,000 or 16,000 pounds of lead per month.

On the 22nd ult., H.M. the Mikado presented a decoration to General Saigo for his services in the Formosan Expedition.

The Imperial Japanese Post Office has published a set of very useful maps of the Empire, showing the postal routes at present in use. The maps are four; they are well and cleanly cut, and have every appearance of care and accuracy.

The *Nichi-nichi Shimbun* of the 3rd instant comments on the satisfactory termination of Kuroda's embassy to Corea, and compliments His Excellency upon a success which neither Commodore Perry nor the Earl of Elgin were able to attain.—*Japan Gazette.*

YOKOHAMA.

An escape of water from one of the boilers of the steamer *Japan* occurred the other day when the engineer was getting up steam. A Japanese fireman was severely scalded and is since dead, and a Chinaman was also to some extent hurt.

The punishments awarded to refractory editors forms the stable of the news given by the Japanese newspapers. One writer has been condemned to fine and imprisonment, one to fine only, and three others are undergoing examination before the *Saibansho.*

The Yokohama *Mainichi Shimbun* notices a collection which is being made throughout the Empire for the purpose of restoring the temple of Minobu San in the province of Kôshu, the chief temple of the "Nichi Ren" sect, recently destroyed by fire. Some 6,000 *gen* have already been collected towards its rebuilding, but of this sum only some 64 *mun* have been contributed by the pious of the province of Satsuma.

A new line of telegraph wire, some twenty-one miles in length, which has recently been set up between Yokohama and Yokoska Dock-yard will be opened to the public, we understand, on the 20th instant. The line has been constructed by native labour exclusively, under foreign superintendence, and, so far as may be seen, the work—more especially at the point where the wires cross the Kanasawa river on lofty poles—has been admirably executed and reflects much credit upon all concerned.—*Japan Mail.*

NAGASAKI.

The *Rising Sun* has learnt that numbers of cattle are dying along the Southern Coast, more especially between Kagoshima and Kumamoto, from a pestilential scourge by which they are attacked. The local Government has issued a proclamation prohibiting the slaying of cattle for food, unless they pass a successful examination before an inspector and be pronounced free from disease.

Ever since the attempt to fire the office of the *Rising Sun*, watchmen have been more in demand. There are but few buildings in the Settlement where the inevitable watchman is not to be seen or heard; and the extra precautions taken to ensure property from the ravages of evil disposed persons are already producing fruit, as robberies are now much less frequent than formerly.

A farmer, who resided on the sea coast, about 60 miles from Nagasaki, noticed that one of his pigs had become sick, and seemed likely to die. He anticipated this, by killing the animal, and afterwards invited two of his friends to a banquet of the pork; they feasted largely, but shortly afterwards were taken very ill, and in the course of a few hours two of the men expired, and the third barely escaped the fate of his companions.

The *Cosmopolitan Press* says it is well known that no port in the East with a similar amount of shipping is left to entirely to the mercy of chance as Nagasaki. Every captain who enters it complains of its disorder and want of regularity in arranging its shipping, thus trebling the chances of collision, &c. The *Press* is therefore glad to know that the question as to the advisability of appointing a Harbour Master is to be taken into consideration. We (*Japan Gazette*) have received intelligence from a reliable quarter that the Norwegian barque *Hafrsfjord*, which sailed from Kobe a short time since for Nagasaki, proceeding *viâ* the Inland Sea, and which was in charge of a Japanese pilot, struck the rocks a little to the westward of Shimonoseki Straits, knocking away part of her keel. She reached Nagasaki in safety, but was compelled to go on the Slip at that place. At the time of striking, the *Hafrsfjord* was some miles to the southward of the channel used by foreign vessels; but whether or not the grounding of the barque occurred through the ignorance of the pilot will soon be known, as there is no doubt he will be examined as to why he did not keep the proper channel.

HIOGO.

The results of the trade of this port for year 1875, as shown by the statistics we published in our last, are so nearly in accordance with what was expected from the perfectly well known recent state of business that we scarcely considered it necessary to draw special attention to any of the lines. The result, however, shown by the figures relating to tea, the chief export of the place,—an increased quantity with a decrease in value—seems to point that a change is taking place in the nature of the trade, and we find on enquiry that the opinion is held here by some that it is in a great measure owing to a policy recently pursued by growers, which if persevered in will cause most serious injury to the foreign trade of the country. The first fact to be recognised is that importers in the United States—the market for Japan tea—will not give the prices they did, and we hear it alleged to be owing to the competition of China Green tea and a falling off in the quality of Japanese. Some years ago, in the China Green tea trade, high prices and a great deal of adulteration coexisted, and no doubt the Japan tea trade owes a great deal of its present position to the fact that it supplied home buyers with a purer kind of the article they wanted, but the Chinese have been quite sharp enough to find this out, and under the pressure of competition growers in this country, while steadily increasing the quantity produced, have overlooked the fact that it is necessary for their interests that they should improve at the same the quality, and we are informed that they not only do not do this but that the quality of their produce is deteriorating from a want of care in selection and preparation. To such a length has this already gone that we hear, notwithstanding the increased export, there are still large stocks of tea in the interior which the holders will not offer at such prices as exporters can afford to give. As the whole foreign trade of Japan hinges upon her exporting powers and as tea is one of her two most important exports, it is abundantly clear that unless tea growers give more attention to the quality of their produce, the whole foreign trade of the country is threatened with consequences of the most serious nature. Though we give these as the opinions of some of the leading houses here, and of their correspondents in the States, we do not endorse them as entirely correct, for we find that other persons who have at least equal opportunities of judging and whose opinions are entitled to as much consideration, refuse weight to two of the causes alleged to anything like an important extent, denying that Chinese competition has had any abnormal effect and asserting that while it may be true that the tea crop of the past season may not perhaps be universally considered as equal to the previous one, the lower prices in the New York market are almost entirely attributable to the general depression of trade, which has lately been felt in New York with special severity.

The other figures published by the Chamber of Commerce are not so unsatisfactory as they might have been, considering all things. Till trade recovers a sounder basis, we decidedly prefer to see falling off in imports maintained. Mousselines de Laine, the monopoly of the trade in which article by German and French houses was pointed out by Mr. Acting Consul Anneley in his last Annual Report, is the most important one. The Grey Shirting trade is entirely in the hands of Chinese, and will probably remain there as long as communication between this market and Shanghai is open and cheap, and Chinese traders here can obtain long credits by the influence of native associations and capitalists in China.—*Hiogo News.*

HIROSHIMA.

Finding the inconvenience of having no regular communication between Hiroshima and Hiogo-Genka, a few influential merchants in this town purchased a small steamer and have established a service between the ports in question. From Hiroshima to Osaka, and *vice versâ*, the journey is accomplished in a little over two days; the fare for Japanese is 2½ *yen*; and the steamer is despatched three times a month from each end.

There was no relationship between "My Man John" and Byron's "Man Fred."

Over 300 soldiers have been frozen to death near Gonza, Turkey, and many are in hospital with frost bite.

Professor Oakley is working for art successfully in Edinburgh with his organ recitals. His programmes are drawn up with judgment and good taste, and he avoids that pretentious style of analysis which is based mainly on the grammar of the world, and is too often overloaded with technical "slang" utterly incomprehensible to the tyro, and which the practised professor, of course, ridicules.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

OPIUM.

WEDNESDAY, 15th March.

Of fresh receipts, Patna placed to-day at $618½ and $620, and Benares at $588½ and $590. Of old imports, nothing done in either kind; quotations are nominally $615 and $585. Sales of New Malwa at $585, with allowance of two catties. Stock of Patna computed at 1,900 chests, of Benares 750 chests, and of Malwa 1,200 chests.

EXPORT CARGOES.

Per *Lombardy*, for London, &c.:—

For London 937 bales Raw Silk, 42 bales Pongee Silk, 6 bales Waste Silk, 8 boxes Silk Piece Goods. For Continent 203 bales Raw Silk. For India about 300 pkgs. Silk, and 500 pkgs. Tea.

Per P.M.S.S. *Great Republic*, for Yokohama and San Francisco:—

For Yokohama 2,945 bags Sugar, 11 pkgs Ropes, 121 pkgs Merchandise. For San Francisco 1,363 bales Hemp, 44 pkgs. Tea, 3 boxes Futna Opium, 100 bags Rice, 1,875 bags Sugar, 2 bales Raw Silk, 24 boxes Prepared Opium, 1,126 pkgs. Merchandise. For San Juan de Guatemala 1 case Silks. For La Libertad 1 case Floss Silk. For Panama 7 boxes Merchandise. For Callao 19 boxes Malwa Opium, 8 boxes Merchandise, 22 boxes Turkey Opium, 27 boxes Silks. For New York 137 bales Silk, and 150 rolls Mattings.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	3/10
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	3/10½
Bank Bills, at 6 months' sight	3/11
Credits, at 6 months' sight	3/11½
Documentary Bills, at 6 months' sight	3/11½
ON BOMBAY.—Bank, on demand	220
ON CALCUTTA.—Bank, on demand	220½
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73

SHARES

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Shares—3 per cent. premium.

Union Insurance Society of Canton—$650 per share.

China Traders' Insurance Company's Shares—$1,700 per share.

China and Japan Marine Insurance—Tls. 59 per share.

Chinese Insurance Company.—$220 per share.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Company's Shares—$492½ per share.

China Fire Insurance Company's Shares—$145 per share.

Victoria Fire Insurance Company's Shares—$69 per share.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company's Shares—50 per cent. discount.

Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.'s Shares—5 per cent. discount.

Shanghai Steam Navigation Company—Tls. 74 per share.

Hongkong Gas Company's Shares—$75 per share.

Hongkong Hotel Company's Shares—$32 per per cent. discount.

Chinese Imperial Loan—£104.

SALES ON MARCH 15TH, AS REPORTED BY CHINESE.

Saigon Rice—20,000 piculs, at $1.57, by Kin Nam to local trader.

Milled Rice—2,500 piculs, at $1.60, by Kin Foong to local trader.

Black Dates—10 bags, at $3.50, by Yuen Fat to travelling trader.

Fungus—20 bags, at $32.00, by Yuen Fat to travelling trader.

White Wax—2 pieces, at $69.50, by Kwong Sang Tye to travelling trader.

Hams—15 packages, at Tls. 17.8.0.0, by Yee Foong to travelling trader.

Mushrooms—10 cases, at $60.00, by Kwong Fook Wo to travelling trader.

Vermicelli—50 bags, at $8.40, by Yee Kee to travelling trader.

American Flour—50lbs., 100 bags, at $1.33, by Kwan Yue Yeg to travelling trader.

NEWS FOR THE ENGLISH MAIL.

BRITISH POLICY IN THE FAR EAST.

It is with some surprise but more regret that we notice a tendency in a section of the British Press, and, therefore, of the British public, to manifest opposition towards anything like a healthy and vigorous foreign policy. A writer in the *Fortnightly Review* thus gives expression to opinions which residents out in the East will feel to be founded on a misconception of the case. He remarks that the Malay Peninsula witnesses the re-telling of an old story. "One reads with pure vexation of English redcoats and bluejackets driving Malays up their own rivers, sending rockets whizzing and crashing through jungle, and bursting in defences and stockades. Even if this were inevitable, it would be worse than inglorious work. So far from being inevitable, it is only the result of action which the best opinion, even in official circles, pronounces thoroughly ill-judged. We interfere in affairs which do not concern us, we send officials to places where they have no business to be, the people of the country act just as we might have been sure that they would, and then the nation is committed to one more of these futile encounters. The worst of it is that powerful influences are tending to commit us to a policy in China and elsewhere that would lead avowedly and unmistakably to an indefinite augmentation of this bad work on a more wholesale scale." As proof that the *Fortnightly* does not stand alone, comes the intelligence that the other night, in the House of Peers, Lord STANLEY of ALDERLEY, during a debate on the Perak Expedition, condemned the operations and deprecated British interference in the native States of the Malay Peninsula. A good deal of this dislike of the operations undertaken no doubt arises from the account, sent home by one of the London special correspondents, of a piece of thoughtless cruelty said to have been committed by some young civil officers, which has been stigmatised by some of the English journals as an act of atrocity worthy only of barbarians. But the probability is that the circumstances have been greatly exaggerated, that a mountain has been made out of a molehill by a lover of sensation.

Even supposing, however, that the statement is perfectly correct—which it must be hoped is not the case—that cannot affect the propriety of the present policy adopted by the British Government. People who talk and write in this strain are apt to ignore accomplished facts, and leave out of consideration the trifling circumstance that Great Britain is almost entirely dependent upon the sale of her manufactures for support. Some countries, like the United States, have no need for colonies, and no particular occasion to go exploring with a view of opening up fresh markets, but it is of vital importance to the mother country that she should find customers for her products. The statesmen of no other country in the world have a tithe of the responsibility resting upon those of Great Britain. Her numerous colonies, dotted all over the surface of the globe, the variety of interests which are bound up with them, and the mixed nationalities over which her sovereign bears sway, render the task of governing the British Empire one of peculiar difficulty. That empire is not the growth of a day, nor has it all come by conquest. The later additions have nearly all been peacefully acquired, some unwillingly. But it has in every case been the manifest destiny of the country annexed, and, with very few exceptions, the best results have followed. Weak, vicious, and indolent races must, in the course of nature, succumb to an energetic and enterprising nation, and however little inclined the latter may be to use its giant strength, the former will eventually either claim protection or by dishonesty provoke a struggle the issue of which was never doubtful. This was the case in Malaya. Singapore and Penang were purchased as trading stations with no ulterior thought of conquest, and they have unquestionably been of great commercial value. But the establishment of British power on these islands in the course of time brought with it some responsibilities towards the neighbouring States. A Christian Power can never look on with utter indifference while a nation is dwindling into a miserable tribe, and a once prosperous country reverting to jungle through the incapacity, vices, and crimes of its rulers. British mediation and advice was, in process of time, sought and obtained. With what result is now a matter of history. No sensible person would advocate unnecessary and uncalled-for interference, but we maintain that it is absolutely impossible for England to always avoid entanglements with neighbouring native States. It was incumbent upon her to chastise the Malays of Perak, who had been guilty of the vilest treachery and basest ingratitude, and it may be necessary to ultimately annex the territory. If this has to be done, no injustice will be suffered by anybody, and the oppressed inhabitants of Perak will, beyond question, be the most substantial gainers by it. It is gratifying to notice that Lord CARNARVON deferred the course which has been pursued, and it is devoutly to be trusted that the Government will not be moved by the mawkish sentimentalism and illiberal policy which are just now trying to make their influence felt.

There is some slight fear lest this feeling should spread with regard to British policy in China. The dread of being plunged into a war which would entail some expense and add little to the glory of British arms is evidently strongly entertained in certain quarters in England. There is really no foundation for all this uneasiness and alarm. The errors of the past, due to a want of firmness in our policy towards the Chinese Government, have led to an awkward condition of affairs and nearly brought on hostilities, it is true; but if in the future a determined attitude is shown by the British Representative at Peking, no more difficulties of a serious nature are likely to arise, unless as the fruit of past complications. But even these may be tided over with the use of wise discretion. But it was not a policy of meddling that brought about the difficulty between England and China. Against that erroneous assumption it is well to strenuously protest. A *laissez-faire* policy has been pursued, and its fruits are sufficiently visible in the open violation of the treaties and the repeated and insolent aggressions on foreigners of which the Chinese have been guilty during the past ten years. Neither the British Government nor the British people have ever shown any inclination to encroach on the liberties or the territory of China, though it would doubtless prove no very difficult matter to obtain a slice of the latter if its possession were really coveted. But it is not, and never will be, unless the action of the Chinese themselves compels such a step for the preservation and protection of British mercantile interests. Fortunately for those interests, and fortunately, probably, for the Chinese themselves, the Statesman at the head of Foreign Affairs in England is not likely to be guided by impulse, or to suffer himself to float with the stream of events. Lord DERBY, though somewhat slow of action, is firm, when he has made up his mind. Of course, it is unavoidable that he should make errors, for he is far from the scene; but, when he discovers the fact, his lordship is not, like some statesmen, too vain to alter his course and retrieve his position. He has scarcely yet, it would seem, fully appreciated the political mistakes committed during late years in China, and has only just become aware of the extent to which British influence in that country has been undermined by them. The general policy of Lord DERBY is that of non-intervention, so long as it is consistent with the well-being and prosperity of the British Empire; but if its maintenance can only be preserved by a sacrifice of prestige or commercial loss, then he would not, we hope, hesitate to face a foe, however formidable and dangerous. So long as this policy is followed fearlessly, little danger is to be apprehended; but if once a halting system of diplomacy, skiddled over with the craven fear of consequences, were to be inaugurated, the decline of British influence and power ab

The losses from Bad Debts, &c., during the past year, have been small, and the Balance now remaining at the Credit of Profit and Loss Account amounts to $1,339.58.

From this sum the General Managers recommend, subject to the sanction of the Shareholders, that the sum of $537.50, or 2½ per cent., be written off Real Estate for depreciation; that a distribution of a Dividend of 2 per cent. be declared, which will absorb $800, to be appropriated as provided for by the Article of Association (Art. XIII. Clause 113); and that the Balance, $152.08, be carried forward to new Account.

The Company's property is in good condition, and the Machinery and Plant in good working order.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

The Consulting Committee, Messrs. T. T. BENNING, J. S. COX, W. H. BELL, J. MCLEOD, and E. L. WOODIN, retire, in accordance with the Articles of Association, but are eligible for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The Accounts have been audited by T. G. LINSTEAD, Esq., who also retires, but is recommended for re-election.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,
General Managers.

The CHAIRMAN said there was, as would be seen from the Report, a little money left to the good, and they proposed to declare a small dividend. He moved that the Report and balance sheet be adopted.

Mr. BENNING seconded.

The motion was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said the shareholders would have to send in memoranda of the amount of their contributions, so that they might know how to apportion the dividend.

Mr. BELL asked if the dividend was not so much per cent.

The CHAIRMAN said the money would have to be divided in accordance with the Articles of Association, that was, so much to contributing shareholders and so much per share. The whole amounted to two per cent. on the capital.

Mr. FAIRBAIRN said one-third would have to go to contributing shareholders and two-thirds to dividend.

Mr. BRERETON said the way to put it would be to say that the sum of $800 be applied in paying a dividend and bonus according to the section. It would come to the same thing, however, for the shareholders would all be contributing shareholders more or less.

Mr. FAIRBAIRN—The Report puts it fair enough.

The CHAIRMAN—If anyone objects let him cut twice as much.

On the motion of Mr. BRERETON seconded by Mr. HARBOLD, the gentlemen forming the consulting committee were re-elected.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. BELL, Mr. Linstead was re-elected auditor.

Mr. BRERETON moved a vote of thanks to the Consulting Committee and General Managers for the successful way in which they had carried on the business of the company during the year.

Mr. MCCONACHIE seconded, and it was carried.

This concluded the business.

ANOTHER MEMORIAL FROM LI HAN-CHANG.

The *Peking Gazette* of the 15th ult. contains the following memorial:—

Li Han-chang, Governor-General of Hu-Kwang, Imperial Commissioner for an Enquiry in Yünnan, and Sieh Hwan, ex Vice-President of a Board, Imperial Commissioner adjoint for an enquiry in Yünnan, kneeling, represent that a due has been obtained by investigation to the fact that an officer, lately holding an acting appointment as captain, did lay a plan for opposing the entry of foreigners into the country; and request a decree in the first instance, stripping him of his rank, in order that he may be placed on trial.

Your servants have to state that, on finding manifest falsehoods and suppressions in the depositions taken from the prisoners guilty of the murder of Ma Kia-li (Mr. Margary), and the depositions of the sub-prefect Wu K'i-ling and of Captain Li Chên-kwoh, handed in by themselves, they, on the one hand, commissioned the officials who were placed by decree upon their staff, to take measures for eliciting the actual facts, as they have reported in their memorial dated the 1st of the 12th Moon (November 28th, 1875); and subsequently appointed additional delegates in the persons of the Taotai Ting Sze-pin and the Prefect Tzinng Sih-hsün, to co-operate with the Financial and Judicial Commissioners of the province, in subjecting the prisoners to rigorous examination. All that the prisoners confessed was that they had committed robbery [and that], owing to a foreigner (or, the foreigners) having discharged a pistol-shot which killed one of their accomplices named A Tung, they then and their resolved to resist apprehension, and murdered Ma Kia-li and his four attendants. They firmly refused, however, to confess who had been their instigator. Wu K'i-hang, for his part, also affirmed that he neither knew aught of the affair, nor had any share in planning what took place. Li Chên-kwoh returned the most absolute denial to the statements made in Wei To'oma's despatch, and it was not until he had been subjected to repeated cross-examination that he uttered a statement to the effect that "in the 12th moon of last year (January, 1875), the notables of the sub-prefectures of Teng-yueh (Momein), on learning that foreigners were about to come forward at the head of a large body of troops, and fearing that they would commit disorders, raised a force of local train bands for the protection of their own lives and property; [of which they] had communicated an intimation."

The circumstances thus indicated are sufficient in themselves to warrant suspicion; and, coincidently, the Brigadier-General Li Sheng, of the Sui-teing command, who was sent forward by your servant Li Han-chang, whilst on his journey, to proceed to T'ang-yüeh and make enquiries there privately, having returned to the provincial capital, reports as follows, viz:—"That the murder of Ma Kia-li came of the act of lawless offenders who offer resistance to capture for commission of robbery, but that, according to common report along the roads, the secret instigation of the lawless savages to obstruct the progress of the foreigners and prevent them from entering the country, was the act of Li Chên-kwoh; who, however, at the time Ma Kia-li was murdered, was not on the spot, nor were any soldiers concerned in the affair."

It appears from the correspondence forming part of the case, that in the third moon of this year (April 6th to May 4th, 1875), the Governor, your servant Ts'en Yü-ying, received a report from Li Chên-kwoh, [forwarding] two official letters addressed to him (Li) on separate occasions by the notables of T'eng-yüh; and in this report, there unquestionably appears statement on the part of Li Chên-kwoh, that [he is] "taking vigorous and active precautionary measures, with the view of stoutly defending the region under his care." Although Ts'en Yu-ying wrote commanding him to quiet the people, and prevent any action on their part (lit., quiet, or appease, and obstruct, the people), and allow no unfounded alarm to spread, yet this was after the affair had already taken place, and it was too late. It appears from this, consequently, that although Li Chên-kwoh had no intention to commit murder, he is liable to a charge of having laid plans to obstruct the expedition; and Your servants have agreed, after taking counsel together, that he should not be suffered to take advantage of his official rank as a cover for lying evasions, gaining time with false statements in dread of incurring punishment. They think it their duty to solicit a rescript, in the first instance, stripping of his rank Li Chên-kwoh, a Colonel by brevet, on the list for immediate employment as Lieut. Colonel, late acting in the post of Captain-Commandant of Nan-tien [They propose to] bring him up together with Wu K'i-liang, the officer now already degraded from the rank of Brigadier-General, to be brought without a day's delay to the provincial capital, in order that they may be rigorously examined, as circumstances may require, to the end that the demands of justice may be fulfilled. They accordingly join with Your servant Ts'en Yu-ying, Governor and acting Governor-General, in laying this Memorial before the Sacred Glance of Your Majesties the Empresses and Your Majesty the Emperor.

(For Decree in reply, see *Gazette* of January 24th.)

Dilworth & Son's cotton mills at Manchester, England, were destroyed by fire Jan. 17. Loss, £60,000.

A special pension of £300 per annum has been awarded to the widow of the late Commodore Goodenough, C.B., who lost his life at Santa Cruz whilst in the execution of his duty.

THE YAMEN OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

In connection with the enlargement of intercourse with the high officials at Peking, our readers may be glad to learn the actual composition of the "Yamên of Foreign Affairs" as at present constituted. The existence of the Chinese Foreign Office dates from the beginning of the year 1861, when it was formed as a species of Cabinet on the same principle as the *Kün Ki Ch'u*, or Grand Council of State, four out of the five members of which are likewise heads of the Yamên. The following is a list of the present members, showing, in addition, the principal offices of State they fill:—

Members of the Grand Council of State.—Prince of Kung. Grand Secretary Wên-siang. Grand Secretary Pao-yün, Chancellor of the Han-lin. Supervisor of the Board of Civil Office, &c., &c. Assistant Grand Secretary Shih Kwei-rün, President of the Board of War, &c. &c.

Tung Sün, President of the Board of Revenue.

Niu Ch'ang-hi, President of the Board of Civil Office.

Chang-how, Vice-President of the Board of Civil Office.

Koch Sung-tao, Acting Vice-President of the Board of Civil Office, and Envoy designate to Great Britain.

Ch'ing-lin, Vice-President of the Board of Works, and junior Lieutenant-General of Gendarmerie.

Hü Kia-hsu, Vice-President of the Court of Transmission.

Of the above, one-half are Manchus and one-half Chinese. The clerical staff of the Yamên is composed of 36 *chang-king* or Secretaries, on the same footing as, and interchangeable with, the 60 Secretaries of the Grand Council.—*N.C. Daily News.*

THE CAREER OF CH'EN KWO-JUI.

The following curious, and evidently more than half fabulous account of the fortunes of the turbulent soldier who is believed to have been the prime instigator of the Tientsin Massacre, is translated from a work entitled or "Jottings from Personal Experience," which was published a year or two ago:—

Huang K'ai-pang, whose literary name was Tien-ch'ün, was a native of Hupeh. He was a man of disorderly conduct, and disliked by his fellow villagers. He removed into the province of Honan, where he took up his abode at the Sankow camp. A captain in this camp, by name Wang, was so much struck by his personal appearance that, having no sons of his own, he gave him his daughter in marriage. Being employed in one capacity or another in connection with the troops, Huang rose to the grade of sergeant, and at the death of Wang, which occurred not long afterwards, he came into possession of the whole of his father-in-law's accumulated fortune. From that time forth, Huang gave himself up entirely to gambling and debauchery; his comrades expelled him from their society, and finally he was degraded and his name struck off the rolls. A year or more passed away, and he had sunk into such extreme poverty that one night he made his way into a deep valley, seeking for some means to put an end to his life. All of a sudden, he deserted, in the bright moonlight, the figure of his wife gliding noiselessly towards him. He at once rushed forward and folded her in his arms, seeking a return of his caresses; but she, drawing back, exclaimed—"Beware! cease these embraces, for know that I am a spectre." The ardour of Huang's passion, however, was only increased; then she quickly, shaking her head, loosened her tresses, which fell disheveled about her shoulders; blood issued from her eyes, and she appeared clothed with funeral garlands; the figure of his wife had changed its form, and assumed the shape of a fearful spectre; but Huang, so far from being terrified, exclaimed with a cry of delight—"I see now that you are indeed a spectre, and with such I delight in disporting myself. What harm can befall me?" The spectre, having no further resource, resumed the appearance of a beautiful woman, who, kneeling straight before him, earnestly besought him saying—"My lord and master, the road to honour before you stretches far; do not, I pray you, be your own enemy." These words sank into Huang's heart, and he relaxed his grasp. As he did so, the vision vanished. At break of day, Huang hastened on till he arrived at a village in the hills, and there he pawned some of his clothes to procure food. Hearing that the Anhwei regiments were enlisting volunteers, he straightway went there and enrolled himself. After three years of hardship and heroic exertion, he rose to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. At the time of the re-taking of Hsü-an Fu, among the prisoners carried off by his chief brave was a youth who was made to serve as fireboy to the soldiers. It chanced that Huang, going through the camp on his round of inspection, saw the fireboy, and being struck with his prepossessing appearance, asked him his name. The youth answered humbly, "My name is Ch'ên and my home is in Hu-peh; having fallen among the rebels, I have now been so fortunate as to meet your Excellency and behold once more the light of day; I will serve you for you like a dog or a horse and serve you as you wish." Huang, delighted with this answer, adopted him as his son, giving him the name of Kwo-jui, with the alternative designation of Ching-yüe. He changed his patronymic from Ch'ên to Huang. Kwo-jui followed his adopted father against the rebels, and gained renown in many battles.

A year or more passed away, and Huang was filling the post of Commander of the naval forces stationed at Ku-yu; Kwo-jui had risen first to Colonel and then to Brigadier-General. Wü'tang, who was at that time Governor-General of the grain transport, presented a memorial requesting that Ch'ên Kwo-jui might be sent to assist in the management of military affairs. Not long afterwards, the followers of the White Lily Sect in Shangtung rose in rebellion, and Kwo-jui thereupon received orders from Prince Sangkolinsin to march against them. When his men were drawn up ready for battle, he ordered wine to be served out to every single man, and made them swear that if they were not victorious, they would not return alive. At that time the rebels were in great strength, and Kwo-jui's small band could not stand against their overwhelming numbers. His men were utterly routed; forty or so at most made their escape from the battle field; Kwo-jui put every one of them to death. On the following day, during a terrific thunder-storm, Kwo-jui put himself at the head of a body of troops, and marched straight down on the rebels stronghold. Ladders were thrown up against the wall, and they had climbed half way up, when the rebels reaching out with a grappling hook caught Kwo-jui by the hair of his queue. His position was one of great danger, but a sudden and loud peal of thunder so terrified the rebels that in their freight they let fall the grappling hook; with one bound, Kwo-jui was on the wall, all his followers ascending with him. In three days and nights they swept 70 stockades of the long line of defence clear of rebels, and the fame thereof made Kwo-jui's name respected throughout the entire Empire. Prince Sankolinsin presented a memorial to the Throne, requesting for Kwo-jui that he might be allowed to resume his ancestral name.

When Miao P'ei-lin revolted, Kwo-jui was ordered to proceed against and reduce him to submission. The Elders of Shantung gave him a splendid farewell banquet, and erected a temple to him in the south of the Yencheng district, in which they gave him canonical honours during his lifetime. Ch'ên's army fought with the rebels under Miao, and in one engagement, lasting a day and a night, took several tens of their stockades. Pei-lin escaped with a few followers, but the Commander-in-Chief Wang Wen-ch'ing captured him to death. Thus the rebellion of Miao Pei-lin was crushed.

The Son of Heaven, in recognition of his services, bestowed a yellow jacket on Kwo-jui, and gave him the button of the first rank. In addition, he conferred on Huang K'ai-pang the brevet rank of General, for his services in obtaining such a commander for his country. Wang Wen-ch'ing also received a yellow robe and the brevet rank of General, but, when the news of the Imperial Grace arrived, Wang had already died in the midst of his army, and the rumour goes that he was carried off by the homeless spirit of the rebel Miao; this however, is not worthy of credence.

Huang is now General in command in Kiangsi, and Ch'ên has received and Imperial Commission, appointing him to the command of the forces at Peking.

On the 24th February, 1868, I was living at Shanghai, in the Chan Hua room of the Yeh-shih Yüan, together with T'sai Ch'ung-chiu, a man from Li Cheng, in Shantung, and the Deputy Salt Commissioner Hsi-ling. We observed in the course of conversation that the heroes of history had arisen for the most part from very questionably antecedents, Tsai gave an interesting description of the two Generals Huang and Ch'ên, and all their notions and heroic deeds as above related, which I jotted down, but I had no time to revise it and make corrections.

In 1863, I had taken refuge at a village near T'ungchow, called Shih Hsiang-chang, and had taken into my service a refugee from the rebels, named Wang-tao, to copy books for me. Wang had formerly been employed as a clerk with General Ch'ên's force, and he mentioned to me that Ch'ên was very strict with his men and very ready with the sentence of death; in awarding punishment he was uninfluenced by ties of friendship or kindred. He took no pleasure in the society of women, but delighted in friendship with Buddhist priests, and always said, after he had gained his fame and risen to distinction, that he would retire into seclusion, to some ancient temple on some famous mountain out of the world, and there end his days in peace; this was his only wish. When going into battle he strode in advance of his men. He never fought without victory, never attacked without success. He was very hot-tempered, and if thwarted in argument did not spare abusive language to his interlocutors. After wine he became excited, and one day led his customary body-guard of 100 men armed with swords, and tried to force an entrance into the chief gate of the Yamen of Wu, the Governor-General of the grain transport; finding the gate closed and barred, he drew his sword and hacked at it. Wu called out his men to defend the entrance, and Ch'ên's followers retired in disorder. The Governor-General of the grain transport presented a memorial, denouncing Ch'ên for his insane demeanour and disregard of the laws. He was on this account deprived of his rank and ordered to proceed to Peking.—*N. C. Daily News.*

HONGKONG.

During the fortnight very little has transpired worth chronicling. The French Opera Comique troupe gave two more performances, one at the Theatre Royal on the 2nd, and one at the Lusitano Theatre on the 6th instant, both of which were very successful. An English Operatic Concert Company have also paid the Colony a flying visit, and gave two concerts at the City Hall, one on the 7th and one on the 10th inst.

The Chinese steamer *Yung Ching*, which left here on the morning of the 6th inst. for the Coast Ports, had on board the twelve successful candidates for cadetships at the Foochow Arsenal. There were only about twenty candidates from the Central School for the appointments.

Telegraphic intelligence was received here on the 9th instant that the steamship *Orestes* had struck upon the Gindum Rock, off Galle, and sunk in fifteen fathoms of water. Fortunately no lives were lost. No further particulars have yet been received. The *Orestes* was one of the latest additions to the Ocean Steamship Company's fine fleet. Like her sister vessels, the *Stentor* and the *Archiias*, she differed from the older ships chiefly in having two funnels, but was about the same build and tonnage. She was commanded by Captain J. Bewley, formerly of the *Hector*, another of the same company's steamers, which was totally wrecked near Amoy on her next voyage after he had been appointed to the new ship. Captain Bewley, who is one of the company's most tried and trusted commanders, had always hitherto been very fortunate. The present was only the second voyage out of the *Orestes*.

The Legislative Council met on the 6th inst. In reply to a question by the Hon. P. Ryrie, the Governor stated that some more stringent measures would be taken to prevent the destruction by the Chinese of growing timber on the island.—An Ordinance to amend the law relating to Chinese Passenger Ships and the conveyance of Chinese emigrants was read a first time, as was also an Ordinance for divesting the Registrar-General of his judicial functions.—The application of Bishop Raimondi for a grant of $3,000 to aid in rebuilding St. Joseph's Church, destroyed in the typhoon of September, 1874, was again brought up for consideration. H.E. the Governor proposed that $1,500 be granted for the purpose. After some little discussion, the proposition was unanimously agreed to.—The supplementary votes were agreed to, after an inquiry from the Hon. P. Ryrie with regard to the new footpath to Wanchi.—The Companies Ordinance then came on for discussion in committee. The Hon. P. Ryrie and the Chief Justice opposed it, and after a lengthy deliberation, Mr. Ryrie proposed that it be not further proceeded with. On a division, the Bill was thrown out by a majority of five to three. The Council then adjourned *sine die*.

A meeting of some of the leading Chinese in the Colony was held at the City Hall on the 9th instant, to consider the best steps to be taken to popularise the Museum among the natives. Mr. Keswick and the Curator were present to lay before them the aims and objects of the institution. Mr. Keswick said it was desirable to obtain specimens of natural history and of the products of China. If a subscription could be raised, it was intended to enlarge the building and obtain models of various articles illustrating modern progress. After a consultation among themselves, those present intimated their intention of taking the matter in hand.

The Eastern and Australian Mail Company's steamer *Queensland*, which arrived here on the 14th inst., is a new steamer and on her first voyage. She is a fine vessel of 1,437 tons register and 2,500 tons burden. She was built by Messrs. Palmer & Co., of Jarrow-on-the-Tyne. Her length over all is 332 feet; length between perpendiculars 310 feet; breadth of beam, 30 feet 6 inches; depth of hold to upper deck, 25 feet. Her engines, built by the same firm are 1,500-horse power; they are inverted direct acting engines, with surface condensers and all the latest improvements. She is fitted with a steam cooking apparatus capable of cooking for 300 native passengers, and a condensing apparatus, which will distil 2,000 gallons per day. Her windlass, winches, and capstans all work by steam. She has a splendid saloon, capable of comfortably accommodating 44 passengers, a second class fore-cabin for 66 passengers, and a steerage for 600 passengers. The *Queensland* is commanded by Captain Robert Craig.

Shortly after ten o'clock on Sunday night, the 12th inst. it was discovered that a fire had broken out in a portion of the block known as Fletcher's Buildings, situated on Queen's Road East. They consist of three substantially built detached godowns, three storeys high and otherwise of considerable dimensions. Information was at once conveyed to several of the Police Stations, and the fire bells were rung. The local brigades arrived subsequently, together with a detachment of the 28th Regiment, and also men from the several English men-of-war in the harbour, and from the Russian Admiral's flag-ship, the *Bayan*, and the Russian frigate *Vladimir*, all of whom rendered valuable assistance. Considerable time elapsed, however, before water could be secured. The mains were all but empty, and some difficulty was experienced in getting the engines alongside the harbour from the fact that all the gates had been locked for the night. In the meantime the flames had got a firm hold of the building, and fears were entertained for the safety of the Chinese houses immediately eastward, and the detached portions of the godowns on the West side. The large wooden verandahs of the former rendered them specially liable to ignition, and those of the first and second houses were speedily demolished. The verandah of the Police Station opposite was also smashed, and part of the mat-shed over the building in course of erection in the naval yard was torn down. The jets of water playing upon the burning building were, for a considerable time, of the feeblest description. It was soon discovered that it would be impossible to extinguish the fire where it had got hold, and all efforts were therefore directed to save the adjoining property. Hose were drawn up on the roof of the godown on one side and the dwelling houses on the other. Luckily there was not the slightest breeze stirring, and the fire was confined to the one building, which, before half-past twelve was completely gutted. There seemed to be much better order maintained in the operations than is generally the case at fires in Hongkong, but this was perhaps owing to the limited number of spectators present, and to the fact that they were kept a considerable distance from the fire. The naval and military men were called off soon after twelve, but the engines were kept playing on the smoking ruins throughout the morning. A portion of the godown destroyed was rented by Hing-kee, the Commissariat Compradore, and it contained about twenty tons of coals and four thousand bundles of firewood. The fire is believed to have broken out in the west corner at the back, and its origin is at present unknown. The building was in charge of a Chinaman, and several slept on the premises. It is the property of a gentleman living in England, and is, we believe, fully insured.

CANTON.

(From our own Correspondent.)

CANTON, 6th March.

A proclamation has been issued by the Viceroy, in which he states that it has come to his knowledge that some mandarins have presented money to the members of his suite. He had ordered them not to receive such compliments, and he once more gives warning that if any more such cases reach his ears, the offending officials will be dismissed in disgrace.

I am told, on good authority, that the Viceroy went out one night recently disguised, and proceeded to the City Gate where, pretending that he had urgent business, he begged the soldiers in charge to let him through. They of course refused, whereupon he offered them some money, which temptation proved too much for these vigilant custodians, who immediately unlocked the gate. Next morning, however, the officer in charge of the gate received a summons to wait upon His Excellency, who, after reading the surprised and terrified man a severe lesson, dismissed him from his post.

Owing to the strict prohibitions of the Viceroy, the gambling houses have nearly all shut up, and even the gambling in the streets, formerly so common, is now infrequently indulged in. The Viceroy is very anxious, it is believed, to put down this vice. One consequence of this move is stated to be that the junks have lately been much preyed upon by robbers, who are suspected to be penniless gamblers afraid to pursue their old avocation. The Viceroy will need to turn his attention in this direction next.

MACAO.

(From our own Correspondent.)

MACAO, 6th March.

On Saturday the annual ceremony of conveying the life-size figure of Christ bearing the Cross from the Church of St. Augustine to the high altar at the Cathedral took place. The procession was escorted by a body of soldiers, and guarded by the Brethren of the Holy Cross. Yesterday High mass was celebrated in the Cathedral at 11 a.m., and was followed by a sermon preached by the Rev. F. A. M. Fernandes. The church was fairly well filled, and His Excellency the Governor was present at the ceremony. In the afternoon, another sermon was preached, and at the close of the service the return procession set out for the Church of St. Augustine. It was headed by a military band, and consisted of the clergy, Brethren of the Holy Cross, and others bearing the great image of Christ, and the silver Cross, together with a number of banners, &c. The procession traversed the principal thoroughfares, finally arriving at St. Augustine's. Unfortunately for the success of the pageant in a spectacular point of view, the rain came before it had ended. There were, as usual, a goodly number of visitors from Hongkong present on the occasion.

The Chinese junk *Hung Tai*, which left Hongkong for Tuk Hoi on the 2nd inst., was attacked by pirates near Muckshow. The pirates had their boat disguised as belonging to the coast guard service, and hailed the junk to come alongside. On her doing so she was immediately boarded. A short struggle took place, in which the pirates obtained the advantage, and they then plundered the vessel, taking the money, eight chests of opium, and sundry other goods, amounting in all, it is estimated to the value of $10,000. Some of the passengers were severely wounded in the struggle. Several of the pirates are reported to have been captured at Mieso.

MANILA.

(From our own Correspondent.)

MANILA, 1st March.

The expedition to Sulu was detained a long time arranging matters in Zamboanga, and did not reach Jolo till the 20th ultimo, when the following vessels anchored off Paticolo, about six miles from the Jolo fortifications:—

Steam transport *Leon*, with 1,700 troops; sailing transport *Teresa*, with 400 volunteers from Zamboanga, &c.; steam transport *M. de la Victoria*, with 720 troops; steam transport *Ensay*, with 310 troops and 100 chain-gang; steam transport *Pasay*, with 490 troops; steam transport *Leyte*, with 300 troops and 130 chain-gang; steam transport *Sorsogon*, with 250 troops and 50 chain-gang; steam corvette *Wadras*, with 130 troops; steam gunboat *Sta. Filomena*, with 130 troops; steam transport *Salvadora*, with 1,048 troops; steam transport *Zamboanga*, with 963 troops; steam transport *Pasig*, with 170 troops; steam transport *Oreo*, with 300 troops and 100 chain-gang; steam transport *Mactan*, with 130 troops.

Frigate *Carmen*, 25 guns; gunboat *Constancia*, 3 guns; gunboat *Santa Lucia*, 3 guns; gunboat *Filipino*, 4 guns; gunboat *Oliamianas*, 4 guns; gunboat *Paragua*, 5 guns; gunboat *Mindoro*, 5 guns; gunboat *Mindanao*, 5 guns; gunboat *Samar*, 6 guns; gunboat *Jolo*, 5 guns; gunboat *Arayat*, 5 guns; gunboat *Bulusan*, 5 guns; gunboat *Albay*, 5 guns; gunboat *Prueba*, 5 guns; corvette *Vencedora*, 8 guns; transporting about 3,000 to 4,000 troops.

After a careful reconnaissance of the port of Jolo by General Malcampo and the Admiral, who were fired upon by the Joloanos, it was determined to disembark the troops at Paticolo, and the movement was effected on the following day with, according to official accounts, 14 killed and wounded on the Spanish side and 15 killed on that of the enemy. Six miles of dense jungle have to be cleared before the attack on the rear of Jolo could take place. The bearer of the above and only news we have from Jolo, left the day after the landing, but the *Leyte* is expected hourly, and her advices are anxiously awaited. Rumours of heavier losses than those acknowledged by Government are rife, and it is to be feared the worst has not been told, but we shall probably not be able to arrive at the truth of the matter till after the arrival of the *Leyte*. The *Esmeralda*, to leave here about the 8th inst., should carry important news from the seat of war.

MANILA, 6th March.

Jolo was taken on the 29th ult. After landing at Paticolo on the 23rd, preparations were at once made for the march, but difficulties presented themselves on every side, and it was not till 8 a.m. on the 25th, that the bugle sounded the signal—forward. Between Paticolo and the fortifications of Jolo a dense jungle intervened, with only a footpath on either side of it. The troops were divided into two columns each following one of these foot paths and cutting their way through the jungle as they proceeded. One of these paths led into marshy ground, and so soft and deep was the mud that the men appear to have got through it only after suffering the direst tortures, and before the day closed very many officers and men were obliged to give in. Water could not be found, and for twenty-four hours the troops suffered severely from thirst. Jolo was reached on the 26th, and the army rested on the 27th, having lost thus far, in killed, wounded, and sick, 300 men. The 28th was employed in reconnoitring the positions of the enemy and preparing for the attack. At 9 a.m. on the 29th, the flagship frigate *Carmen* gave the signal for the fleet to weigh anchor, and an hour afterwards Jolo was confronted by a naval force composed of the war vessels mentioned in my last and formed in horse-shoe shape, with the *Carmen* and *Constancia* in the centre. All being in readiness ashore and afloat, the *Carmen* opened fire on the stockades at 10.45 a.m., and the bombardment at once became general. The army, formed in three divisions, now advanced, covered by the fire from the navy and their own mountain artillery. All of a sudden a heavy rain squall came on, which lasted till 12.30, and delayed the assault; but the bombardment, which was briskly returned from all the stockades, continued. By 2 p.m. the stockades had nearly all ceased to return the fire, and at 2.30 the troops, carrying scaling ladders, advanced on Fort Daniel, which appeared to be the strongest. The bombardment from afloat now ceased on this stockade, continuing on the others, and at 3 o'clock, after a hand-to-hand and bloody struggle, the Joloano flag was cut down, and in its place waved the Spanish, protected by Spanish troops. The Joloanos fought with a will, and disputed every inch of ground, and the losses on both sides must have been very great. The Sultan's stockades were the next to which attention was directed. At 4 p.m. the fire from both sides is described as horrible. All the men that could be spared from the fleet were now landed in boats. At 5 p.m. the Sultan's flag fell, the Spanish being immediately hoisted in its place. Another hand-to-hand fight takes place in the town, which is now on fire in several places. At 6 p.m. the Spaniards are masters of all the stockades, but firing continues in the surrounding woods. At 7 p.m. only occasional shots are exchanged with the enemy, and the troops receive their rations. At 8 p.m. the town continues to burn and the silence of the night is only broken by the watch cries of the sentinels and the bugle of the victors.

The foregoing is a plain statement, extracted from the verbose letters of the special correspondents at the seat of war.

Public opinion condemns General Malcampo and charges him with being the cause of so much loss of life. That the landing in Paticolo was a mistake there appears to be no doubt; for the army could have been landed in Jolo just as safely, as we are told the spare men landed from the fleet during the bombardment. The march from Paticolo must no doubt a dreadful one and cost more lives than the Government care to confess. When a Colonel in the army, in the prime of life, gives way from sheer fatigue and is left on the way to die like a dog, the state of affairs must have been very bad indeed, and yet such was the case with poor Colonel Herera Davila and a host of others who left Paticolo well and hearty and died before reaching Jolo. It is difficult to get at the exact number of killed and wounded. The official accounts are silent on the subject, while the special correspondents say 500 all told in killed, wounded, sick, and missing. We know that at one o'clock on the morning of the 1st March, the steamer *Sorsogon* was despatched to Zamboanga loaded with wounded, and that the *Ormoc* made two trips to the same place, each time being full of sick and wounded. We know that the unfortunate obnin-gang went into the Paticolo swamps and never returned, and we know that a very large number must have been killed in the assaults on the Jolo stockades.

The bearer of the news from Jolo was the *Leyte*, which left Jolo on the afternoon of the 1st March, when everything was still in confusion.

It strikes me as strange that 400 women, found in one of the Sultan's stockades, are the only prisoners referred to in either the official or non-official reports. Where can all the Joloanos have got to, and where is the Sultan? It is rumoured that they have a much stronger place up in the hills, and that the Sultan is either there or at Tawi Tawi. Later advices will inform us, and in the meantime it is a pity the Spaniards cannot refrain from bragging so much.

FORMOSA.

We hear that the plant and machinery in connection with the newly-opened coal-mines in Formosa are expected to arrive very shortly, and that the arrangements are in every respect most complete. The mines are about thirty li from the harbour of Keelung and the railway will run from the pit-mouth to the wharf of the steamer. The coal will thus be shipped at the cost only of a dollar a ton, and, with freight and all other charges, will be able to be laid down in Shanghai at three dollars. It is evident from this that Takasima coal, which costs so much more will eventually be hustled out consumption; it is true, of course, that its quality is somewhat superior to that of the Formosan coal, but the probability is that as the latter is more extensively worked it will improve. At any rate, it cannot fail to offer very formidable competition to the Japanese mineral, and we do not see why the Chinese should go elsewhere for their coal when they have such inexhaustible supplies under their own soil. In the North, in the neighbourhood of Hangchow, and around Kinkiang as is well known, there are coal-mines in abundance, only waiting to be worked; and as the commencement which has already been made in some of these places is so promising, it is only reasonable to suppose that the authorities will recognise the advisability of encouraging native enterprise and drawing upon their own resources.—*Celestial Empire.*

FOOCHOW.

We understand that the steamship *Europe* will continue to run between this port and Shanghai. Her passenger accommodation is highly spoken of, and she is in other respects said to be well adapted to the trade.

The new Governor is expected in the City today (2nd inst). The business of the Mamoi Arsenal will be conducted by deputies appointed by the Governor, who retains the post of Imperial Commissioner.

A large collection of curios, coins, and various natural and industrial products of this province have been despatched by the Imperial Maritime Customs to America, for exhibition at the approaching centennial festival at Philadelphia.

The Chinese Merchant's Steam Ship Company, intend, we believe, to establish a permanent agency at this port. Mr. Tong-king-Seng, the chief manager of the Company, is, we understand, endeavouring to obtain suitable premises in the Settlement.

During the last few days, the delectable *Samli* has re-appeared in the Min. The first fish caught was sent to the Viceroy, in accordance with established custom. We hear of some good sized ones having been sold in the city at prices ranging between 20 and 35 dollars.

The rainy season appears to have set in with a vengeance, and there is but little indication of any break in the weather. The rain-fall during the past twelve months has been unusually small, and we may therefore look for heavy freshets in the river this spring.

H.E. the Fantai paid an official visit on the 1st instant to the new gunboat *Chien Sheng*. His Excellency was received by Captain Broadley and the agents of the vessel—to whom he expressed his approval of the craft. The *Chien Sheng* will probably hoist Chinese colours in a few days, on the completion of her transfer to the Provincial Authorities.

Some Chinese workmen, engaged in excavating on the site of the proposed forts near the Mingan Pass, recently discovered an old cannon of foreign manufacture, and bearing date 1641. It is made of bronze, and weighs about 30 piculs. The Chinese state that it is probably one of several guns taken from the Dutch at the time they were driven out of Formosa.—*Foochow Herald.*

NINGPO.

March 7th.

There is little news at our port just now. Mr. R. E. Bredon, who was for some time Acting-Commissioner of Customs here, handed over his charge to Mr. Commissioner Dick on Saturday, and left the same day. The Ningpo Book Club was yesterday removed to a building on Kirby's property. The room has been nicely done up, and the place looks very comfortable. The Committee deserve great praise for their energy in getting the new place ready so soon.

Ducks and geese ought to thrive just now, considering the amount of rain we have had lately. Owing to the heavy downpour this morning, both the *Kiangsu* and *Tahyeu* arrived late, as their respective pilots could not see the way. Towards the latter part of last month a number of slabs of tin were stolen during the night, from the godown of one of the hongs. Up to date no clue has been discovered either of the thieves or of the tin.

We hear from Chinese sources of local troubles in the province of Chekiang. The story goes that there lives a petty mandarin at a place called Yu yao, some thirty miles from Ningpo, who was formerly connected with the Tai-ping rebellion; and it seems that this man has been stirring up strife. Indeed he has armed a number of Chinese, and is fighting against the authorities; though on what pretext or with what object, we have failed to learn. We give the facts for what they may be worth, but if the affair is at all serious we shall no doubt hear more about it later on.—*Shanghai Courier.*

SHANGHAI.

We notice that the fort opposite St. Catherine's bridge is again tenanted; and the soldiers have been busy during the past week increasing the height of the ramparts and parapet.

The *Peking Gazette* of the 16th February contains a memorial and edict regarding the riotous proceedings at Yangchow, in which our old acquaintance Chen Kwo-jui was lately engaged. Particulars of the incident, and of the arrest and removal of Chen Kwo-jui to Nanking, were given by us some months ago. At the request of the Viceroy, he is now degraded in order that he may be arraigned for trial.

We are informed that a foreigner had a very narrow escape from drowning on the evening of the 29th ultimo, at the China Merchants' pontoons, through the absence of lights. Having transacted some business on board the steamer *Lessyton*, he left with the intention of walking home, but accidentally tripping over a hawser, fell head foremost into the water and was immediately sucked under the pontoon. Being a good swimmer, he managed to get from under the pontoon, and was eventually assisted by one of the officers on board.

The steamer *China*, which arrived in port on the 24th ult. from Hongkong, reports that on the 19th inst., at 7 a.m., off Cupchi Point, she saw a junk capsized, with two men on the bottom. The sea was running high, and after several ineffectual attempts to get them on board by means of life-buoys attached to the head lines, a boat was ventuously lowered to their rescue. One man attempted to swim to the life-buoys and was drowned; the other was taken safely on board. Another junk was close by, pirating the floating wreckage, but made no effort to save the unfortunate men.

Mr. Edward Brand, pilot, has just been presented by the Japanese Government, through the medium of their own and the British Consuls here, with a handsome testimonial in acknowledgment of his having rescued 35 Loochooans, in August last, from a disabled junk off the Barren Islands. The testimonial consists of three heavy silver bowls, each beautifully chased with a design in the centre, and otherwise artistically finished. This is the second occasion on which Mr. Brand has been privileged to be the means of saving the lives of Loochooans at the mouth of the river.

There is something curiously pathetic in the persistence with which the veteran Wensoang begs to be relieved from his various high offices, and with which the Emperor grants him instead two or three months congé to recover his health. Two or three times a year, now, for several years, memorials in the same strain and having always the same result, have been regularly appearing. Some time ago he did succeed in getting rid of a few of his appointments; but he has been retained as a member of the Grand Council and of the Tsung-li-yamên. The *Peking Gazette* of the 3rd February contains a memorial begging to be relieved of his post in the former, so that he may have only Foreign affairs to attend to. But the request elicits only the stereotyped two months congé.

A private letter from Thayetmyo informs us that 200 men of H.M. 67th Regiment, and 100 of the 6th Madras Native Infantry have been ordered to Bhamo, to form the escort for the Yünnan Mission. The following officers are doing duty with the escort:—Lieut.-Colonel Jebb, 67th Regiment, in chief command, Captains Quirk and Brereton, in command of their respective companies, which have been completed to the strength of one hundred men each. Lieuts. White, Garfit, Jackson, and Passy, 67th Regiment. Captain Orley, in command of the detachment of the 6th Regiment M.N.I., and Mr. Burgess, of the Burmah Commission, who goes in the capacity of political agent. Surgeon Charleton has the medical charge.

On the morning of the 24th ult., a fire broke out in the shop of a native wheelbarrow maker in the Woosung road, Hongkew. On the alarm being given, a strong body of firemen, members of the Hook and Ladder Companies, and police, were soon present, the lat

when some most elaborate stone coffins were unearthed, shrined in subterranean structures of richly-carved wood covered with scarlet lacquer. These, indeed, were of much more ancient date than those recently laid bare, the inscriptions being nearly three thousand years old, thus reaching back to the times of Confucius and bearing the characters of the Chow Dynasty. There has been quite a rush of people to visit the excavations in the Yang mountain, and we shall be interested in hearing of any further discoveries that may be made. Up-country excursionists might certainly make a passing call there with advantage.

CHINKIANG.

We have several times referred to the condition of the Chinkiang Bund, and the proposals for raising wage and means to keep it in repair. We believe it has now been nearly decided to raise Wharfage Dues at the rate of 1/10 of 1 per cent. on the five principal articles of import—Opium, Shirtings, Woollens, and Sugar, which constitute together about 6/7 of the import trade of the port. It is proposed to levy this tax through the Customs, on all goods of these descriptions, whether native or foreign owned, as landed; and it is anticipated that a revenue will be thus obtained, of about Tls. 10,000 a year. This will be devoted principally to preventing the encroachment of the river along the whole front of the City and the Concession, and partly also to opening out roads, through the Concession and the City suburbs. The question of administration is not yet quite settled; but it will most likely be decided to entrust funds to a joint commission of Foreign and Chinese residents, acting under the supervision of the Taotai and the Treaty Consuls.—*N. C. Herald.*

KIUKIANG.

An attempt on the part of certain knowing merchants at Kiukiang to evade barrier-squeezes was very neatly frustrated the other day. They had to send a pretty large cargo of goods to Tung-liu Hien, a place some distance from Kiukiang, by water; and thinking to impose upon the tax-collectors, hired a number of boats which were known in the neighbourhood as being always employed by the Yamûn. These boats did not belong to the mandarins, but were always hired by them whenever occasion arose for sending messengers on any business to the adjoining Departments. The lowdah of one of these boats, however, turned the tables on the unfortunate merchants quite remorselessly. He coolly took the goods with which he had been entrusted, amounting to a very considerable sum of money, and sold them for his own account; then scuttled the boat and came back with a plausible story of robbery, piracy, and so on. The merchants to whom the goods belonged were helpless. They knew they had been 'seen' by the lowdah; but did not dare complain to the authorities lest in addition to losing their money they might be severely punished for attempting to evade the taxes by passing their boats off as in official service. There was nothing for it but to pocket their mortification and regret the bad bargain they had made.—*Shanghai Courier.*

HANGCHOW.

29th February.

You have frequently noticed the case of Yang-nai-wu, the scholar accused of aiding a woman to poison her husband in Yü-hang. Three days ago, he left this city under a heavy guard for Peking. It is said that about twenty witnesses, including the wife of the murdered man, her mother, and the owner of the drug shop where the arsenic was bought, accompany him. The long delay in starting was owing to the severe sores on his knees, which had been made by his being forced to kneel on chains. When the order for his transfer to Peking was received, five physicians were called in to heal up these sores as quickly as possible, but, they were not easily healed. It is said that the Literary Chancellor, who had the case in hand, took the following method to elicit a confession. One night while the prisoner was before him, all the lights were suddenly put out. After waiting a while, the chancellor said: "Did you not hear what that spirit said? I know all about this affair now, so you may as well own up." The prisoner then confessed guilt. The other officers were called, lights brought in, and his confession taken down. This story is current, but I cannot vouch for it.

It is rumoured that the most important witness in the Yu-hang murder case, the apothecary, has died suddenly. He was sent in charge of two soldiers from the yamên to prison. They stopped to eat on the way. The apothecary, shortly after reaching home, was seized with pains in the stomach, and died. As this man would have testified to the pressure brought to bear on him by the Che-hsien to induce him to testify falsely against Yang Nai-wu, the relief his death affords to the official mind may be conceived. We should not be surprised to hear that Yang Nai-wu himself died on the way to Peking.—*N. C. Daily News.*

CHEFOO.

1st March.

There is no news to give you of importance. The usual talk of arsenals and forts to be built in this province; and the mandarins have measured off some land on the west side of the bay to build a fort on, which is to command the town and harbour; but as yet the work has not been commenced as the weather is still frosty. The provincial authorities have ordered the plantation of a belt of trees four hundred feet wide to be made all along the north coast of Shantung, and the people are called on to contribute to its foundation either in money or trees. This is intended as a cover for troops acting on the defence against invaders and also to serve as a screen to prevent cruisers from seeing what is going on inside the country. It will take many years before the trees can be of the use intended.

The Admiral does not seem inclined to leave Chefoo without protection, for he has just sent up the *Curlew* to relieve the *Kestrel*; though the programme was that the *Kestrel* should leave us to our own resources.—*N. C. Daily News.*

TIENTSIN.

Dr. Elmore, the Peruvian Minister, expects to leave for Shanghai about the 1st March. For several days before the 14th February the Peiho was clear of ice. A telegraphic line to the outer world would have been a great convenience during the past winter in the interests of trade, and specie-freights in particular.

Mr. Hill has stopped work on the Canal with his dredger; why, I do not know. The return of the Viceroy Li Hung-chang is expected very shortly. Mr. James Henderson is understood to be also on his way Northwards, after his mission to England for the purchase of coal-mining machinery.

Many "pools" have been made on the result of the steam race from Shanghai, and hats and suits of spring clothes will soon be in brisk demand. The excitement attending the arrival of the fleet on the Taku bar is almost greater than that occasioned by the ordinary race-meeting! Mr. Sheppard, the United States Consul, I am sorry to say, has been suffering from a nervous complaint which in the opinion of his medical advisers will necessitate a trip homeward. Dr. Salter has been here all the winter, in the interest of a number of gentlemen who are desirous of seeing the coal-formations of China developed.

No serious disturbances have occurred during the winter, and while we should prefer to have had the *Monocacy* with us for political as well as social reasons, her absence has not been a source of any uneasiness whatever. We hope, however, that Admiral Reynolds will send a man-of-war to look in upon us. This will in a measure atone for our disappointment at having her ordered South last fall. I hear that Dr. S. Wells Williams is to leave the United States this month for China. Meantime we are looking forward to the pleasure of seeing Mr. Seward on his way to Peking by an early steamer when navigation opens.—*Shanghai Courier.*

4th March.

We were gladdened last Sunday evening by the arrival of the *Millet*—precursor of the more that were to follow. She returned to Taku on Tuesday morning, to do duty at the bar for a short time, before commencing her weekly trips between Chefoo and Newchwang. She was followed on Wednesday by the *Conquest*, which also left for Taku on the following day.

To-day, we have the *Hansing* and the S. S. N. Co.'s new steamer *Fung Shan*, at the bund, both of which are advertised to leave to-morrow morning; and the *Taku* is reported just in, while a fleet is said to be in the river.

The bund is once more putting on its work-day attire; boxes and bales are occupying large spaces here and there—forecasting the condition of things, for a few days, when the fleet arrives; while coolies—well, it's useless trying to tell how thick they are. The Chinese are as much interested in the arrival of the steamers as the "outside barbarians" are. The same would be true of the arrival of each train of a railroad anywhere in China, as soon as the novelty wore off, and money was found in it, notwithstanding the *Fungsui*, and the creaking of mandarins. There is one bark, the *Freya*, at the bund. Since the return of the last party of pleasure riders, nothing of stirring interest has transpired at this humdrum place. On Thursday the 2nd, the three war vessels in port were "dressed," and in the evening illuminated, in memory of the day on which Russia honored herself by liberating the serfs. Other illuminations helped to give the bund quite a gay appearance.

Our roads are horribly dusty. No snow or rain has fallen in the province, unless it be in the extreme southern point, during the winter. Consequently the country is very dry, and the atmosphere is filled with dust on the least provocation. Throughout the entire section of country lying south of this, for a distance of over 200 miles—and probably we may safely add another 100—the wheat shown last fall appears to be dead or dying, and it is too dry to sow spring wheat. Some fields are being ploughed, in preparation for some other crop. This condition of things seems to extend to the greater part of the province.

About two weeks ago, a hunting party from Tientsin killed a wolf, near a village about 100 li from here. It was said to belong to a pack of four or five which had carried off at different times a number of pigs and kids, and one little child three or four years old. A number of foxes have been caught, but this is the first time I have heard of wolves so near us.

A report reaches us that Mr. Grosvenor has met with foul play of some sort, but it is exceedingly indefinite—and scarcely worthy of note. Dr. Elmore, the Peruvian Minister, arrived from Peking to-day. The country, so far as we can learn, is perfectly quiet. Robberies are less frequent than last autumn.—*N. C. Daily News* Correspondent.

NEWCHWANG.

Messrs. Bush Brothers write on the 29th January:—"As usual, during the China New year holidays, business is lost sight of, and we beg therefore to lay before you a few statistics of last year's trade, which have been supplied to us through the courtesy of the Commissioner of Customs. Imports.—The increase in manufactures has not been much to the advantage of importers generally, as rates have not ruled over the values obtainable in the South; but stocks have nevertheless been well worked off, against purchases of produce, the total exports of which have fully kept up with arrivals of goods. Opium.—This has fallen off from 1,368 chests last year to 840 chests, and of this small quantity there are still some 150 chests undelivered. In 1873 the consumption was 2,363 chests. Native drug is gradually but surely superseding its rival. Every season we find that the quality is improving, and as the authorities do not materially oppose the growth of the poppy, we may soon have to class opium with the exports. Exports and Shipping.—Our table shows a great increase in the tonnage for this year, as compared with 1873 and 1874. Some few vessels which had been indaced to come "seeking" towards the close of port, left in ballast rather than accept the rates which were offered; but low as these were, better could not be obtained elsewhere. The very high price of produce was due principally to the ordinary water traffic being prevented by an unusually droughty season, and it could not be expected that shippers would care to lay down pulse, beancake, oil, &c., at considerably higher values than had been ruling during the season, seeing that the exports were already greatly in excess of the two previous years. Bullion, except so far as tribute money is concerned, was sent away in very small quantity, the trade having chiefly consisted in the healthy system of "bartering."

3rd February.

There is not much to write about, as you may imagine, during China New Year and its 15 holidays. Trade with the natives has been pretty healthy, and we hear of only one hong having "burst;" and this only, some say, to enable all claims being collected. Produce keeps very high, and yet quotations from the South are not such as to make one very eager to purchase. In opium there has scarcely been anything done, and those who sold in time for the last steamer were better off than if they had waited for higher prices in winter. Only 800 chests this year! One of the great drug houses has already closed its agency, and within the last few days the property has been bought by the Roman Catholic Bishop. We never know what will eventually become of the house that Jack built. In this instance, however, it is thought a No. 1 chance, both for seller and for buyer—very cheap, but not much less than cost, somewhere about Tls. 4,000, as report says. The weather is comparatively mild now, thermometer only showing 25 degrees of frost—still rather colder than your arctic weather! but an improvement on 15 degrees below zero.

11th February.

The contribution to the Philadelphia Exhibition goes by this chance to Odin Bay, where the cases are to be put on board the Customs lorcha, which has been sent from Chefoo for the purpose. There are all sorts of models, skins, coal, and schantilions of what this arid clime is famous for, and it is to be hoped that the Commissioner and his Assistants will receive the credit due to them for managing the collection under great difficulties, and in a wonderfully short space of time. It only shows what can be done when the way is made to wait upon the will.—*N. C. Daily News.*

KWEI-CHOW.

Kwei-yang Fuh, 23rd January.

Here I am again, having arrived yesterday, after an absence of nearly two years from this city, during which time I have visited nine of the eighteen provinces, passing through Hu-nan. It took me two months to reach Chen-yuen Fuh by junk from Hankow, thence nine days overland to this place. I had not the least trouble anywhere, and was welcomed by old friends all along the route. At Chen-yuen Fuh the anti-foreign party tried to get up an excitement, but the magistrate was equal to his task, so that no one said a word of any kind. All lower Kwei-chow is in open revolt; the several cities on the frontiers of Hu-nan and and Kwang-si are in the hands of the rebels and many of the troops sent against them have gone over to the insurgents with their rifles, &c. Troops are being sent to the front and all is activity again. Li-ping Fuh and Koo-cho are besieged, it is said. Kein-cho and Tung-tao hien in Hu-nan are in the hands of the rebels, so the movement is spreading.

The weather is very cold and frosty, and the crops have been rather short this year, so the poor have a hard winter before them.—*Shanghai Courier* Correspondent.

PEKING.

Our Peking Correspondent writes that the winter is over, and there has really been no cold weather to speak of. About ten inches of snow fell one morning in December, which is all the moisture Peking has experienced for the last three months.—A variety of reports have been current among the Chinese regarding the Emperor's health. He has had small-pox, measles, typhoid fever, indigestion, sore throat, and a number of other unpleasant ailments attributed to his sacred person; the fact being, apparently, that he has been a little out of sorts.

There is no other news of special interest, except the removal of Yang Yu-ko from the Command-in-Chief of the provincial army in Yünnan, which he has been holding as an acting appointment since last May. It is not hinted whether this has any political significance.

9th February.

The sun had not shone before upon what Peking beheld on Friday, the 4th of February, A.D., 1876. It was the 10th day of the 1st moon of the 2nd year of Kwang su. The scene was the Tsung-li Yamên, or Board of Foreign Affairs; but the courts of the Yamên were crowded, and the street was full of sightseers. The people saw it. Did they understand it? It was a surprise prepared by the Prince of Kung—at least, I have gone about to enquire, and no one seems to have expected it, until their eyes saw it. But what was it? Well, simply this: His Imperial Highness the Prince of Kung, surrounded by the other eight Ministers of the Tsung-li Yamên, and supported by—well, by twenty-six more columns of the Chinese Empire—Councillors of State, Grand Secretaries, Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the several Boards, of the Censorate and the Imperial Academy; a Duke and a Marquis of the Imperial lineage; last, but not least, the two tutors of the late Emperor—in a word, the Chinese Government shaking hands, and taking repeated glasses of wine with the Representatives of Western Nations—receiving their congratulations on the Chinese New Year.

O tempora! O mores! Does China move? *E pur si muove.* The ceremony above referred to had taken place before; but those extra twenty-six presented themselves only this Year of Grace of seventy-six. It was gracious in the Prince—and done gracefully (I hear)—and the event makes the year memorable. Let us, however, thank the memory of poor Margary, and let us thank Sir Thomas Francis Wade, by whose efforts the Imperial Edict of last September was obtained (among other recent measures), regarding friendly intercourse between the Heads of the several Boards and Departments, and the Ministers of the various Powers resident at the Capital.

I have been at some pains to procure for you, and send herewith, as a historical curio, a list of the twenty-six magnates—may their action be magnetic in transforming China—who received five doyens of the Representatives of Foreign Nations, in the following order.

At 11 a.m.—Sir Thomas Francis Wade—Great Britain.

At 11.30—M. de Butzow—Russia.

At 12—Mr. Holcombe—United States.

At 0.30 p.m.—M. von Brandt—Germany.

At 1—M. de Schaeffer—Austria.

At 1.30—Mr. Mori—Japan.

At 2—Dr. Elmore—Peru.

At 2.30—Count de Rochechouart—France.

List of Heads of Departments present at Reception at the Tsung-li-Yamên, February 4th, 1876:—

King Kuei, Assistant Grand Secretary, President Board of Civil Office.

Pêng Kui-yü, Vice-President Board of Civil Office.

Tsai Ling, (Duke of the Imperial Lineage), President of Board of Revenue.

Yüan Pao-hêng and King Sheng, Vice-Presidents of Board of Revenue.

Ling Kuei (an Imperial Clansman), President of Board of Ceremonies.

Hwang-cho, Mion I (an Imperial Clansman), and Sü Tung, Vice-Presidents Board of Ceremonies.

Kung-show, President of the Board of War.

En Sing (a Marquis of the Imperial Lineage), and Hia Tungshan, Vice-Presidents of Board of War.

Shoo Ki, Huang-yü, and Weng Tung-ho, Vice-Presidents Board of Punishment.

Li Hung Tsao, President of the Board of Works.

Ho Ting-Kieu, Kwei Tsing, and I Chou, Vice-Presidents of Board of Works.

Tsao Pao, President of Colonial Office.

Te Ch'ang and Sin Shu, Vice-Presidents of Colonial Office.

Kingliên, President of the Censorate.

Tang Yên-shên, Hwei Sin, and Tung Hwa, Members of the Censorate.—*N. C. Daily News.* 24th February.

We are still without snow, and to this is ascribed the plague of measles which is running through the city. This disease, which in civilized countries usually runs a harmless course, is here very often fatal owing to the utter ignorance of these Celestials of nursing, and the want of care in protecting against the sudden changes of temperature. The young Emperor has been brought forward to assume the Imperial responsibility for this drought. Some say the poor boy has himself got measles, while others affirm that he has small-pox. These are mere rumours and may be only founded on probabilities. The New Year's visits have, I believe, been all returned. The chairs of the foreign Ministers have penetrated into all parts of the two cities, to the astonishment of the natives. In the majority of cases I hear that cards only have been left. The leaving of cards is a harmless pastime, and might have been enjoyed any time for the past ten years without any previous negociations. I imagine that the 'not at home' dodge has been practised by some of the mandarins; for among this people the leaving of a card without daring to enter is an admission of inferiority which the smallest of the foreign Ministers would hardly make. The numerous readers of our *Peking Daily* have of course seen Li Hung-chang's memorial from Yunnan in which he throws the responsibility on a band of robbers, and asserts that Mr. Margary fired a shot in defence of his baggage. It was wise of the Chinese Government to send their agent a long time before so that the case might be enquired into and adjudged and thus save the time of the Foreign Assessors. Li Hung-chang has of course arranged for the reception of his statement, and who will be able to disprove it?—*Shanghai Courier* Correspondent.

YEDO.

A famous silk manufacturer, named Omori, has been presented with a prize-medal by H.M. the Mikado, on account of the excellence of his silk, a portion of which was exhibited in the Exposition at Kiyoto.

The *Hochi Shimbun* states that a plot of ground of some 700 tsubos has been purchased at Yokka Ichi, Tokio with a view to the building there of a Registry Office for shipping.

A room has been opened at Sakai in the *Ken* of that name in which newspapers are publicly read out, explained, and commented on. The novelty is said to be highly popular with the inhabitants.

Arrangement had been made for a public distribution of Medals of Honour by H.M. the Mikado at the *Sei In* on the 22nd ult. Owing, however, to His Majesty's indisposition, the presentations were made at the Imperial Palace instead.

The exposition building at Uyeno, Tokio, has already been commenced. In the lake Shinobasu, near to it, islands are to be constructed connected with the shore and with each other by suspension bridges. The lake will also be connected with the river Sumida by a canal.

Various relics of antiquity which have been preserved from time to time in the Buddhist temples throughout the empire, are to be collected in the two monasteries of Kyoto, named Higashi and Nishi Honganji respectively, where they will be open to public inspection from the 1st April next for one hundred days.

The photographers have been for some time past actively engaged in the secret production and sale of the Imperial portrait, many hundreds of which we are informed have been exported to European countries. At this is an offence of *lèse-majesté*, the police have been on the alert to discover the offenders, two of whom were found on Monday at Asakusa in Yedo.

On the 24th ult., the date of the expiry of Lieut. A. G. S. Hawes', (R.M.L.I.) agreement with the Imperial Government, a farewell banquet was given to him at the Ohamagoten. Mr. Kawamura, Vice-Minister of the *Kaigunsho*, and many other officials were present. The valuable farewell presents of the rolls of *Yamato-nishiki* (brocade of Yamato), a complete coffee set and a pair of large *vases*, all of Satsuma-ware, and five hundred *yen* were made to him on the part of H.M. the Mikado.

There is some reason (says the *Japan Mail*) for believing that the Government will shortly abandon the present mode of punishing recalcitrant writers for the press. This would seem to have proved of little avail in repressing opposition writing, and while it covers the editors with all the glory of martyrdom occasions them in reality but little actual suffering; that little being amply compensated by the increased sale of their journals. It is alleged that the penalty usually inflicted in France will be resorted to in future, and the issue of the newspaper prohibited for a certain period.

OSAKA.

This morning (Feb. 21st), shortly after midnight, there broke out the largest fire, with the exception of the great conflagration of the 7th February, 1875, that Osaka has witnessed for at least eight years. The precise origin of the new and terrible disaster appears to be unknown, furthermore than that it commenced in the Westernmost of the five great theatres which until a few weeks ago made the Dotombori, to the playgoer, probably one of the famous places in Japan. Now not a vestige of a single one of these great buildings, except the cavernous pits which mark the former site of the "bourds," remains to show where they stood. It was only the other week that I had to record the burning of the two Easternmost of the big theatres, and now all are gone. It is impossible to ascertain at present the full extent of the destruction which six short hours—for the fire was got under by 6 a.m.—has brought about, but I am told that at least 10 cho, or 4 ths. of a mile of streets in one of the densest—and I should imagine oldest—parts of the city has been razed to the ground. If we reckon, as Japanese sometimes do, fifty houses to the cho, that would make five hundred houses altogether. But making allowance on the one hand for the crowded nature of the neighbourhood and on the other for the great space taken up by the three big theatres, and comparing the "burnt out" district with that of the great fire exactly a year and a fortnight ago, I should say the number of houses destroyed will not be found to exceed this estimate. It was only a fortnight ago that I took a friend to see one of these theatres, and we remarked upon the combustible look it had—one vast hall of blackened timber. There was no performance going on at the time, so we went behind the scenes and below the stage, and saw the great post which formed the axis upon which the stage turntable revolved—nothing but wood, wood everywhere surrounded us.

It is to be hoped that the Fu Authorities will take advantage of this clearance to widen the thoroughfares considerably, and if they are wise they will pass a "Building Act" requiring the builders of readily combustible houses to erect at frequent intervals godowns or other buildings with fireproof mud walls—the great use of which description of construction as an arrester of fire was never more clearly shown than on the present occasion. As for the theatres, to make them even tolerably fireproof on anything like so large a scale as they were would cost a large sum of money. But a loan the Authorities should insist upon all future theatres being entirely isolated by broad thoroughfares from all surrounding buildings.

In wandering amongst the ruins one could not help, once more, being struck with the patient endurance of the poor people who found themselves so suddenly involved in ruin. Talk about Christian resignation! How can it compare, so far as outward manifestation is concerned, with Heathen stoicism—or Asiatic apathy—call it which you will?

Want of space prevents me doing more now than record the disgraceful fact that three more of the so called "refreshment saloons" were opened under foreign auspices during the past week in the vicinity of the Concession.—*Correspondent of the Hiogo News.*

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FOR comprehensiveness and practical service this Work stands unrivalled. All the new words which the Chinese have of late years been compelled to coin to express the numerous objects in machinery, photography, telegraphy, and in science generally, which the rapid advance of foreign relations has imposed upon them, are here given *in extenso*. Each and every word is fully illustrated and explained, forming exercises for students of a most instructive nature. Both the Court and Punti pronunciations are given, the accents being carefully marked on the best principle hitherto attained. The typography displays the success of an attempt to make the Chinese and English type correspond in the size of body, thereby effecting a vast economy of space, achieving a clearness not previously attained, and dispensing with those vast margins and vacant spaces which have heretofore characterized Chinese publications.

To illustrate the vast scope of the work, the following facts are submitted for consideration. Medhurst's Vocabulary contains about 12,000 Chinese characters, and Medhurst's English and Chinese Dictionary about 100,000, whilst this work contains more than 50,000 English words, and upwards of 600,000 Chinese characters. Again, despite all the grammars and other elementary works as yet published, the student of the difficult language absolutely requires examples to display the various applications and equivalents of different words which have one general meaning. Of these examples this work contains more than five times as many as any other Dictionary hitherto published.

For practical purposes the arrangement of the work is so complete, that a reference to its pages enables a person who understands English to communicate *effectively* with natives who understand nothing but Chinese. In this respect the work will be found indispensable to all Europeans residing in China, and to the natives themselves it explains subjects fully with which very few indeed of them are perfectly acquainted. To parties resident in England and interested in China it cannot but be invaluable occasionally.

It comprises upwards of two thousand large quarto pages.

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"DAILY PRESS" OFFICE, HONGKONG.

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For Freight or Passage, apply to
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FOR SINGAPORE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY, AND MELBOURNE:
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Captain Craig, will be despatched as above on SATURDAY, the 25th inst., at Noon.
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303 Hongkong, 4th March, 1876.

FOR LONDON.

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833 Tons Register, Captain Selkirk, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch. For Freight, apply to
VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.
174 Hongkong, 7th February, 1876.

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JAS. B. COUGHTRIE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 1st November, 1871. tf 385

THE SECOND COLONIAL SEA AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF BATAVIA.

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Agents.
tf 1028 Hongkong, 1st July, 1874.

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NOTICE.

POLICIES granted at current rates on Marine Risks to all parts of the World. In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, Two-thirds of the Profits are distributed annually to Contributors, whether Shareholders or not, in proportion to the net amount of Premia contributed by each, the remaining third being carried to Reserve Fund.
OLYPHANT & Co.,
General Agents.
tf 951 Hongkong, 17th April, 1873.

THE LONDON ASSURANCE.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER OF HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE THE FIRST, A.D. 1720.

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MARINE DEPARTMENT.
Policies at current rates, payable either here in London, or at the principal Ports of India, China, and Australia.
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Policies issued for long or short periods at current rates.
A discount of 20 % allowed.
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HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.
tf 1363 Hongkong, 28th July, 1872.

Vessels on the Berth.

STEAM FOR
SINGAPORE, PENANG, POINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ, MALTA, BRINDISI, ANCONA, VENICE, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, AND SOUTHAMPTON;
ALSO,
BOMBAY, MADRAS, CALCUTTA, AND AUSTRALIA.

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY'S Steamship
"*LOMBARDY*," Captain E. M. GILSON, with Her Majesty's Mails, Passengers, Specie, and Cargo, will leave this for the above places on THURSDAY, the 16th instant, at Noon.
Cargo will be received on board until Noon, Specie and Parcels at the office until 2 P.M. on the 15th idem.
For Particulars regarding Freight and Passage, apply at the P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office, Hongkong. CONTENTS AND VALUE OF PACKAGES ARE REQUIRED.
A Written Declaration of the Contents and Value of the Packages for the Overland Route is required by the Egyptian Government, and must be delivered by the Shippers to the Company's Agents, with the Bills of Lading or with Parcels; and the Company do not hold themselves responsible for any Detention or Prejudice which may happen from the incorrectness on such declaration.
Shippers are particularly requested to note the terms and conditions of the Company's Black Bills of Lading.
A. McIVER, Superintendent.
Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Co.'s Office, Hongkong, 2nd March, 1876.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANCAIS.

STEAM FOR
SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, POINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ, ISMALIA, PORT SAID, NAPLES, AND MARSEILLES;
ALSO,
BOMBAY, ST. DENIS, AND PORT LOUIS.

ON THURSDAY, the 23rd March, 1876, at Noon, the Company's Steamship "*TIGRE*," Commandant BRUNET, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE, and CARGO, will leave this Port for the above places.
Cargo and Specie will be registered for London as well as for Marseilles, and accepted in transit through Marseilles for the principal places of Europe.
Shipping Orders will be granted till noon. Cargo will be received on board until 4 P.M., Specie and Parcels until 3 P.M. on the 22nd March, 1875. (Parcels are not to be sent on board; they must be left at the Agency's Office.) Contents and value of Packages are required.
For further particulars, apply at the Company's Office.
G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Acting Agent.
Hongkong, 15th March, 1876.

OCCIDENTAL AND ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

TAKING THROUGH CARGO AND PASSENGERS FOR THE UNITED STATES AND EUROPE,
IN CONNECTION WITH THE
CENTRAL AND UNION PACIFIC AND CONNECTING RAILROAD COMPANIES
AND ATLANTIC STEAMERS.

THE S.S. *BELGIC* will be despatched for San Francisco, *viâ* Yokohama, on SATURDAY, the 1st April, at 3 P.M., taking Cargo and Passengers for Japan, the United States, and Europe.
Connection is made at Yokohama with Steamers from Shanghai.
Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. of the 31st instant. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 P.M. same day. All Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.
Return Passage Tickets available for 6 months are issued at a reduction of 20 per cent. on regular rates.
For further information as to Freight or Passage, apply to the Agency of the Company, Praya West.
G. B. EMORY,
Acting Agent.
Hongkong, 1st March, 1876.

U. S. MAIL LINE.

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

THROUGH TO NEW YORK, VIA OVERLAND RAILWAYS, AND TOUCHING AT YOKOHAMA AND SAN FRANCISCO.

THE next U. S. Mail Steamer will be despatched for San Francisco, viâ Yokohama, on SATURDAY, the 15th April, 1876, at 3 P.M., taking Passengers and Freight for Japan, the United States, and Europe.
Through Passenger Tickets and Bills of Lading are issued for transportation to Yokohama and other Japan Ports, to San Francisco, to ports in Mexico, Central and South America, and to New York and Europe, viâ OVERLAND RAILWAYS.
A Steamer of the Mitsu Bishi S.S. Company will leave Shanghai, viâ the Inland Sea Ports, about same date, and make close connection at Yokohama.
At New York, Passengers have a selection of various lines of steamers to England, France, and Germany.
Freight will be received on board until 4 P.M. on the 14th proximo. Parcel Packages will be received at the Office until 5 P.M. same day; all Parcel Packages should be marked to address in full; value of same is required.
For further information as to Passage and Freight, apply to the Agency of the Company, Praya West.
G. B. EMORY,
Acting Agent.
Hongkong, March 15th, 1876.

TAKASIMA COLLIERY.

JARDINE, MATHESON AND Co., AGENTS.

FOR SALE, Fresh TAKASIMA COAL, in lots to suit Purchasers.
Large, hand-picked, double-screened at $8 per Ton; Small, at $6 per Ton.
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1787 Hongkong, 4th December, 1875.

THE Undersigned have been appointed Sole Agents for the Sale of their Goods in Hongkong and China by Messrs. J. & R. TENNENT, Glasgow, and Messrs. DAVID C